

**BOROUGH OF PORT TALBOT**

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# **ANNUAL REPORT**

**OF THE**

**Medical Officer of Health**

**AND THE**

**Chief Public Health Inspector**

**For the Year ended 31st December,**

**1962**



**1963**

**D. W. Jones (Printers) Ltd.,  
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**WELSH BOARD OF HEALTH  
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For the Year ended 31st December,

**1962**



# CONTENTS.

	Page
STAFFS .....	3
REPORT OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH .....	3
INTRODUCTORY LETTER .....	4
SUMMARY OF GENERAL STATISTICS .....	7
EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS .....	7
Live Births .....	7
Still Births .....	7
Deaths .....	8
Deaths from Puerperal Causes .....	9
Infant Mortality .....	9
Glamorgan (Administrative County)—Vital Statistics, 1962 .....	10A
Classification of Deaths (Register General) .....	11
PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES .....	12
Poliomyelitis Vaccination .....	12
Tuberculosis—B.C.G. Vaccination .....	13
Other Vaccinations .....	13
Smallpox Vaccination .....	14
TUBERCULOSIS STATISTICS .....	16
GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES .....	18
Domiciliary Midwifery Service .....	18
Domiciliary Nursing Service .....	18
Medical Comforts .....	18
Home Help Services .....	19
Clinic Services .....	19
Health Visitors .....	19
NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 .....	20
HOUSING .....	20
WATER SUPPLIES .....	21
PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS .....	22
GENERAL INFORMATION. ....	23
Education .....	23
Children's Department .....	23
Juvenile Court .....	23
Welfare Services (Part III Accommodation) .....	24
Employment of Disabled Persons .....	24
Industrial Medical Services .....	24
Atmospheric Pollution .....	26
REPORT OF CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR. ....	28
Introductory Letter .....	30
General Inspection of District, Number and Classification .....	31
Housing Inspections (houses unfit, houses rendered fit) .....	32
Number of nuisances discovered and notices served .....	32
Record of work done following service of notices .....	34
Meat and other food inspections .....	34
Diseased and unsound meat condemned at the Abattoir .....	37
Unsound and unwholesome food condemned within the borough .....	38
Food submitted for analysis (quality, description and labelling) .....	39
Adulterated Samples .....	39
Public Health (Preservatives, etc. in Food) Regulation 1925/53 .....	40
Sale of Milk Regulations .....	41
Sampling of designated milks .....	42
Bacteriological sampling of ice cream .....	42
Industrial catering and automatic vending of food .....	44
Ice Cream .....	44
Food Hygiene .....	46
Public Houses .....	46
Registered Food Premises .....	47
Water Samples .....	48
Slaughtering Facilities within the Borough .....	48
Meat Inspection at the Abattoir .....	49
Annual Slaughterhouse Returns .....	51
Discharge of Sewer into River Estuary .....	51
Refuse Disposal .....	52
Investigation of Atmospheric Pollution .....	53
Records of Deposited Pollution of Dust and Soot, etc. ....	55
Sulphur Pollution .....	56
Rainfall Records .....	57
Sunshine Table .....	58
Atmospheric Pollution .....	58
Alkali Works .....	60
New Furnaces Notification .....	61
Noise Abatement .....	62
Factories .....	63
Rodent Control .....	65
Insect Pests .....	66
Common Lodging Houses .....	66
Offensive Trades .....	66
Inspection of Cinemas .....	67
Rent Act, 1957 .....	67
Inspection of Council Houses .....	67
Land Charges Act, 1935 .....	67
Trainee Public Health Inspectors .....	68
Smallpox Outbreak .....	68
Reinterment of Graves .....	69
The Housing (Management of Houses in Multiple Occupation) Regulations, 1962 .....	69
Slum Clearance Activities .....	69
Proceedings in Magistrates' Court .....	71

## STAFFS

### Medical Officer of Health.

D. II. J. WILLIAMS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (also Medical Officer of Health, Glyncorrwg Urban District Council and Divisional Medical Officer, Glamorgan County Council).

### Chief Public Health Inspector (Until 31st October, 1962)

G. A. MORGAN (C.R.S.H. as Public Health Inspector; C.S.I.B. as Public Health Inspector; C.R.S.H. as Meat and Food Inspector; C.R.S.H. School Hygiene and Physiology; Diploma, Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene; Certificate, School Hygiene, Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene; Testamur Sanitary Science, University College of Wales). Fellow Royal Society of Health. Fellow Association of Public Health Inspectors.

### Chief Public Health Inspector (As from 1st November, 1962)

L. J. CARTER (C.S.I.B., as Public Health Inspector and C.R.S.H. as Meat and Food Inspector). Fellow Association of Public Health Inspectors. (Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector until 31st October, 1962).

### Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector (as from 1st November, 1962)

I. G. HEYCOCK (C.S.I.B. as Public Health Inspector and C.R.S.H. as Meat and Food Inspector).

### Additional Public Health Inspectors.

L. MORGAN (C.S.I.B. as Public Health Inspector and C.R.S.H. as Meat and Food Inspector, also Diploma as Smoke Inspector of Royal Society of Health).

W. CORNELIUS (C.S.I.B. as Public Health Inspector and C.R.S.H. as Meat and Food Inspector, also Diploma as Smoke Inspector of Royal Society of Health).

D. H. W. GRIFFITHS (C.S.I.B. as Public Health Inspector and C.R.S.H. as Meat and Food Inspector).

K. D. RATTENBURY (appointed 1st November, 1962) (C.S.I.B. as Public Health Inspector and C.R.S.H., as Meat and Food Inspector).

### Student Public Health Inspectors.

R. WATKINS.

P. THOMAS (appointed 13th September, 1962).

### Drain Tester and Disinfector.

L. GEORGE.

### Rodent Operators.

D. MAINWARING. T. D. REES.

### Shorthand Typists.

Miss L. WILLIAMS. Miss S. A. KENT.

## REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1962

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To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of  
Port Talbot.

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Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my privilege and pleasure to present for the acceptance of Council, the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1962. The report is presented in accordance with the requirements of Circular 1/63 (Wales) from the Welsh Board of Health.

The year 1962 will remain in our memories as the year of the great smallpox visitation. It was also a year of civic progress and development. It saw many changes in your municipal administration. Three senior officers in the persons of the Town Clerk, the Borough Engineer and Surveyor and the Chief Public Health Inspector retired from the Service whilst the Borough Treasurer left to take up a similar appointment on the outskirts of London.

Two of these officers received recognition and were honoured by H.M. the Queen whilst the other two received the highest accolade of the Freedom of the Borough.

The two wrecks on the Aberavon Beach that over the years had caused so many accidents and fatalities were largely removed, the difficult and dangerous task being completed in early 1963 by the Corporation's Direct Labour force.

Development at the Beach continued with improvements in the facilities and amenities of every description. Alderman Ivor Williams towards the end of his year as Mayor, cut the tape of the new link road between Baglan and Sandfields thus opening the whole of Sandfields and the Aberavon Beach to the West. This brought a measure of relief to the serious traffic congestion at the town centre.

The Slum Clearance programme engaged your officers in considerable activities and these are detailed by Mr. Carter in his section of this annual report.

A number of houses built by the Council had to be allocated to families displaced by the Port Talbot By-Pass Road Scheme.

Work on the Neath River Abstraction Scheme went on apace and towards the end of the year it became evident that this additional source of water supply had been embarked upon not a whit too soon. Details of the various Borough supplies are



incorporated in the body of the report and reference to the bacteriological and chemical analyses is made by Mr. Carter.

Atmospheric pollution exercised our minds in no small measure during the year and statistical details are incorporated in the report. Details of the work done and the expenditures incurred by the Steel Company of Wales during the year have been submitted by Mr. R. W. Tovey, Secretary and Chief Accountant, and are particularly interesting. These may be seen under the heading "Industrial, Medical and Amenity Services."

It is fitting to comment on the expansion of the County Health Services locally.

Following considerable preparatory overtures on our part, each district Health Visitor now pays regular visits to the surgeries of doctors in her area for discussions and consultations on matters of mutual interest. Where the doctors' problems relate to patients in the districts of Health Visitors other than the one visiting the surgery, a system of co-ordination has been built up amongst the Health Visitors under the central control of the Divisional Health Office. By and large the doctors appreciate the value of this service but it is understood that one or two are still somewhat hazy about things.

In the field of preventive vaccinations the use of Oral Polio-myelitis Vaccine was introduced with quite satisfactory results, although one or two patients during the early stages wondered if the three drops of vaccine on a lump of sugar could possibly do as much good as the more glamorous albeit more painful operation with the needle and syringe.

For many years the voice of the Medical Officer of Health has extolled the value of smallpox vaccination and for many years only a few have heard and acted. In 1961, some 320 vaccinations were carried out locally. In January, 1962, a young Pakistani arrived in Cardiff and took to his bed in a dockland cafe, setting up a chain-reaction, the like of which has never previously been experienced in South Wales. In spite of all reasoned appeals for controlled vaccinations as the epidemic spread, mass vaccinations became the order of the day and doctors' surgeries, Health Department clinics, Industrial Ambulance Rooms and even doctors' homes became the scenes of frantic queues. In this area alone, nearly 43,000 smallpox vaccinations are known to have been carried out—and many more will have been done but never recorded. Many re-actions local and general of varying severity were brought to my attention and many visits were paid to patients who thought they had the disease. Fortunately in this area all vaccination re-actions came to a happy ending.

Diphtheria reared its ugly head during a lull in the Smallpox outbreaks but fortunately did not spread outside one family.

The incidence, however, served to bring forward many applicants for booster injections.

The total births in the borough during 1962 fell short of a thousand by one only. 63% occurred in hospital and this is a reduction of 5% on the previous year.

Before drawing these preliminary remarks to a close, I should like on this occasion to refer to my colleagues who have left the Service. To Mr. W. King Davies, O.B.E., the Town Clerk and to Mr. Gordon V. Griffiths, M.B.E., the Borough Engineer and Surveyor, my cordial thanks for all their kindnesses and my best wishes for a happy and healthy retirement, to Mr. W. A. C. Roope, M.B.E., the Borough Treasurer, good luck and happiness at Merton and Morden, and to Mr. G. A. Morgan, M.B.E., the Chief Public Health Inspector, who has retired after over forty years of service with this borough, my sincere thanks and felicitations. During a full and active life in the field of Public Health, Mr. Morgan has contributed in no small measure to the tremendous improvement in the standard of health and welfare of the people he served. During the eleven years or thereabouts that we worked together, I learned a lot about the practice of Public Health administration from Mr. Morgan and I know that the experiences we shared will always stand me in good stead. I wish Mr. Morgan good health to enjoy a well earned rest and happy retirement.

Finally I would welcome my new colleagues, Mr. W. Emrys Griffiths, Town Clerk, Mr. D. W. M. Smith, Borough Engineer and Surveyor, Mr. L. J. Carter, Chief Public Health Inspector and Mr. Llewellyn Morgan, Borough Treasurer, together with their new deputies.

In conclusion I would like to thank all Members of Council for the help and guidance given to me and the Public Health Department during the whole of the period under review.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

D. H. J. WILLIAMS,  
Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Dept.,  
Park House,  
Theodore Road,  
Port Talbot.

Port Talbot 2137/8.



## SUMMARY OF GENERAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR, 1962.

Area of Borough (inclusive of foreshore) .....	23,444 acres
Population (Registrar General's Estimated mid-year, 1962) .....	51,150
Rateable value at 31st March, 1962 .....	£1,632,544
Product of Penny Rate for year ended 31st March, 1962 .....	£6,763
Rainfall in inches at Town Centre .....	35.19
Number of Houses erected in 1962 .....	343
(i) By Local Authority .....	245
(ii) By other Bodies or Persons .....	98
Number of houses connected to Corporation Mains Water Supply .....	15,770
Number of houses supplied from standpipes .....	—
Average daily consumption of water per person in gallons .....	27

### EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

#### Live Births.

	Births	Male		Female	Total
Legitimate .....		496	.....	448	944
Illegitimate .....		16	.....	17	33
Total number of live births .....		512	.....	465	977

  

	Crude	Adjusted
Live birth rate per 1,000 population .....	19.10	18.15
Live birth rate for England and Wales ...	18.0	—
Illegitimate Live Births. Per cent of total Live Births .....		3.38

#### Still Births.

	Births	Male		Female	Total
Legitimate .....		13	.....	9	22
Illegitimate .....		—	.....	—	—
Total number of stillbirths .....		13	.....	9	22

Rate per 1,000 Total Live and Still Births ..... 22.02

Total Live and Still Births ..... 999

The following table is of interest :—

Number of live births at home in the Borough .....	360
Number of live births (Port Talbot mothers) at Neath General Hospital .....	517
Number of live births (Port Talbot mothers) at Bridgend General and other hospitals .....	100

Of all live births 63% occurred in hospital. In 1961 the percentage of births in hospital was 68 and in 1960, 63.

### Comparison of Crude Birth Rate with National Rate.

The Crude Birth Rate for the Borough continues to be higher than the national figure as can be seen from the following chart. This position has maintained itself consistently for the past ten years.

Year	Live Births	Crude Rate per 1,000	Crude Rate (England & Wales)
1953	836	18.51	15.5
1954	834	18.19	15.2
1955	877	18.79	15.0
1956	883	18.74	15.6
1957	899	18.82	16.1
1958	1,002	20.71	16.4
1959	934	19.19	16.5
1960	1,034	21.17	17.1
1961	911	18.21	17.4
1962	977	19.10	18.2

### Applications for Non-Emergency Hospital Beds.

Patients due to be confined during	1960.		1961.		1962.	
	APPLICATIONS Received. Refused.		APPLICATIONS Received. Refused.		APPLICATIONS Received. Refused.	
January	70	15	59	3	69	13
February	73	13	67	11	56	0
March	54	0	64	8	77	19
April	72	11	64	8	69	12
May	62	5	64	8	75	19
June	69	12	57	1	76	20
July	66	10	53	0	72	16
August	59	2	56	0	61	5
September	67	12	68	12	78	21
October	66	9	65	9	47	0
November	68	10	51	0	45	0
December	68	9	54	0	59	3

### Deaths.

Deaths from all causes in the area (Male 290 Female 210)	500
Death rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population Crude, 9.78      Adjusted	12.91
Death rate for England and Wales	Crude 11.9

The Crude death rate for the past nine years is summarised below :—

1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953
10.18	11.50	10.07	10.89	10.57	10.52	10.05	9.97	11.09

### Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

There were no deaths from puerperal causes during 1962.

### Infant Mortality.

Neonatal deaths—11. Neonatal death rate per 1,000 live births—11.26.

Cause of death	First 24 hours of life	One day— One week	One week— One month—
Cerebral anoxia—Aspiration of liquor amni	1	—	—
Prematurity, congenital heart, congenital absence of both radii	—	1	—
Shock—Cerebral haemorrhage, cord around neck	—	1	—
Cerebral haemorrhage— breech delivery	—	1	—
Cardiac failure, foetal abnormalities	1	—	—
Prematurity	1	—	—
Asphyxia—Difficult labour, one of twins	1	—	—
Emphysema right side— broncho-pneumonia	—	1	—
Broncho pneumonia—prematurity	—	—	1
Pulmonary oedema—foetal anoxia	1	—	—
Pneumonia	1	—	—
	6	4	1

Death during one month to one year of age—9.

Acute Bronchitis—Otitis Media	1
Acute Bronchitis—Mongol Child	1
Broncho Pneumonia	3
Bronchitis	1
Virus Pneumonia	1
Meningococcal Meningitis	1
Aspiration of milk from stomach to main air passages	1

For comparison purposes I append below the Infant Mortality rate for the Borough for the last ten years :—

1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953
20.47	20.86	36.75	26.95	37.92	38.93	28.31	34.21	22.78	19.4

### Thalidomide Abnormality.

From the above it will be seen that one baby died of prematurity associated with a congenital heart lesion and congenital absence of both radii. On investigation it was ascertained that during her pregnancy the mother had been treated with the thalidomide drug.

### **Infant Mortality Rates.**

Total infant deaths (under 1 year)	20
Rate per 1,000 total live births	20.47
Legitimate infant deaths	20
Rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	21.2
Illegitimate infant deaths	—
Rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	—

### **Neo-Natal Mortality Rate.**

Total neo-natal deaths (under 4 weeks)	11
Rate per 1,000 total live births	11.26

### **Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate.**

Total neo-natal deaths (under 1 week)	10
Rate per 1,000 total live births	10.24

### **Perinatal Mortality Rate.**

Total still-births and deaths under 1 week (combined)	32
Rate per 1,000 total live and still-births	32.0

### **Maternal Mortality (including Abortion).**

Number of deaths	0
Rate per 1,000 total live and still-births	0

### **Death (all Ages).**

The main causes of death in the Borough during 1962 were:—

1. Cardiovascular conditions	141
2. Cancers of various kinds	85
3. Vascular lesions of the nervous system	87
4. Respiratory diseases (excluding Tuberculosis and Cancer)	81
5. Accidents	19

There were 12 deaths due to cancer of the lung, 10 amongst males and 2 amongst females.

This compares with:—23 deaths (21 males, 2 females) in 1961.

Of the 141 deaths from cardiovascular conditions, 92 were attributed to coronary disease. 61 men and 31 women died of coronary disease. In the previous year there were 91 deaths from coronary disease, 69 being males and 22 being females.

GLAMORGAN (ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY—VITAL STATISTICS, 1962.

	Estimated Population 1962	Number of Births	BIRTHS		Number of Deaths	DEATHS		INFANT MORTALITY		NEO-NATAL MORTALITY	
			Rate per 1,000 Population			Rate per 1,000 Population		Deaths under 1 Year	Rate per 1,000 Live Births	Deaths under 4 weeks	Rate per 1,000 Live Births
			Crude	Adjusted		Crude	Adjusted				
England & Wales .....		840,557 .....	18.0 .....	— .....	557,446 .....	11.9 .....	— .....	17,978 .....	21.4 .....	— .....	— .....
Administrative County .....	748,700 .....	12,888 .....	17.21 .....	16.87 .....	9,183 .....	12.27 .....	14.36 .....	317 .....	24.60 .....	212 .....	16.45 .....
Urban Districts .....	524,770 .....	9,117 .....	17.37 .....	17.02 .....	6,613 .....	12.60 .....	14.62 .....	229 .....	25.12 .....	152 .....	16.67 .....
Rural Districts .....	223,930 .....	3,771 .....	16.84 .....	16.50 .....	2,570 .....	11.48 .....	13.66 .....	88 .....	23.34 .....	60 .....	15.91 .....
HEALTH DIVISION.											
CONSTITUENT DISTRICTS.											
<i>Aberdare and Mountain Ash—</i>											
Aberdare Urban .....	39,030 .....	605 .....	15.50 .....	15.97 .....	605 .....	15.50 .....	15.97 .....	22 .....	36.36 .....	14 .....	23.14 .....
Mountain Ash Urban .....	29,520 .....	482 .....	16.33 .....	16.17 .....	365 .....	12.36 .....	14.96 .....	13 .....	26.97 .....	9 .....	18.67 .....
<i>Caerphilly and Gelligaer—</i>											
Caerphilly Urban .....	36,230 .....	727 .....	20.07 .....	19.07 .....	412 .....	11.37 .....	14.89 .....	15 .....	20.63 .....	9 .....	12.38 .....
Gelligaer Urban .....	34,990 .....	688 .....	19.66 .....	20.25 .....	423 .....	12.09 .....	15.23 .....	15 .....	21.80 .....	7 .....	10.17 .....
<i>Mid-Glamorgan—</i>											
Bridgend Urban .....	15,110 .....	258 .....	17.07 .....	15.88 .....	185 .....	12.24 .....	13.46 .....	4 .....	15.50 .....	4 .....	15.50 .....
Maesteg Urban .....	21,710 .....	396 .....	18.24 .....	18.24 .....	249 .....	11.47 .....	14.45 .....	7 .....	17.68 .....	5 .....	12.63 .....
Ogmore & Garw Urban .....	21,050 .....	354 .....	16.82 .....	16.82 .....	239 .....	11.35 .....	13.73 .....	13 .....	36.72 .....	8 .....	22.60 .....
Porthcawl Urban .....	11,130 .....	189 .....	16.98 .....	16.30 .....	169 .....	15.18 .....	14.72 .....	3 .....	15.87 .....	1 .....	5.29 .....
Penybont Rural .....	42,360 .....	821 .....	19.38 .....	19.38 .....	520 .....	12.28 .....	13.14 .....	24 .....	29.23 .....	16 .....	19.49 .....
<i>Neath and District—</i>											
Neath M.B. ....	30,670 .....	477 .....	15.55 .....	14.46 .....	445 .....	14.51 .....	16.40 .....	12 .....	25.16 .....	8 .....	16.77 .....
Neath Rural .....	40,970 .....	637 .....	15.55 .....	15.24 .....	484 .....	11.81 .....	15.00 .....	17 .....	26.69 .....	15 .....	23.55 .....
<i>Pontypridd and Llantrisant—</i>											
Llantrisant Rural .....	27,080 .....	499 .....	18.43 .....	17.69 .....	296 .....	10.93 .....	13.99 .....	17 .....	34.07 .....	8 .....	16.03 .....
Pontypridd Urban .....	35,480 .....	573 .....	16.15 .....	15.50 .....	514 .....	14.49 .....	15.07 .....	16 .....	27.92 .....	12 .....	20.94 .....
<i>Port Talbot and Glyncoirwg—</i>											
Glyncoirwg Urban .....	9,440 .....	188 .....	19.92 .....	19.52 .....	92 .....	9.75 .....	13.94 .....	6 .....	31.91 .....	5 .....	26.60 .....
Port Talbot M.B. ....	51,150 .....	977 .....	19.10 .....	18.15 .....	500 .....	9.78 .....	12.91 .....	20 .....	20.47 .....	11 .....	11.26 .....
<i>South East Glamorgan—</i>											
Barry M.B. ....	42,040 .....	792 .....	18.84 .....	18.09 .....	461 .....	10.97 .....	12.18 .....	9 .....	11.36 .....	6 .....	7.58 .....
Cardiff Rural .....	50,130 .....	842 .....	16.80 .....	16.13 .....	572 .....	11.41 .....	13.58 .....	11 .....	13.06 .....	9 .....	10.69 .....
Cowbridge M.B. ....	1,100 .....	18 .....	16.36 .....	17.01 .....	15 .....	13.64 .....	14.19 .....	1 .....	55.56 .....	1 .....	55.56 .....
Cowbridge Rural .....	19,760 .....	320 .....	16.19 .....	16.19 .....	151 .....	7.64 .....	12.15 .....	3 .....	9.38 .....	2 .....	6.25 .....
Penarth Urban .....	20,680 .....	360 .....	17.41 .....	16.71 .....	274 .....	13.25 .....	12.99 .....	8 .....	22.22 .....	8 .....	22.22 .....
<i>West Glamorgan—</i>											
Gower Rural .....	12,810 .....	218 .....	17.02 .....	17.19 .....	139 .....	10.85 .....	10.52 .....	5 .....	22.94 .....	4 .....	18.35 .....
Llchwyr Urban .....	25,050 .....	367 .....	14.65 .....	14.94 .....	323 .....	12.89 .....	15.00 .....	5 .....	13.62 .....	4 .....	10.90 .....
Pontardawe Rural .....	30,820 .....	434 .....	14.08 .....	14.22 .....	408 .....	13.24 .....	14.70 .....	11 .....	25.35 .....	6 .....	13.82 .....
<i>Rhondda—</i>											
Rhondda M.B. ....	100,390 .....	1,666 .....	16.60 .....	16.27 .....	1,342 .....	13.37 .....	15.51 .....	60 .....	36.01 .....	40 .....	24.01 .....





# CLASSIFICATION OF DEATHS DURING 1962

as recorded by the Register General.

		<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory .....	2	—
2	Tuberculosis, other .....	1	—
3	Syphilitic disease .....	1	—
4	Diphtheria .....	1	—
5	Whooping Cough .....	—	—
6	Meningococcal infections .....	—	1
7	Acute poliomyelitis .....	—	—
8	Measles .....	—	—
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases .....	—	5
10	Cancer of stomach .....	11	7
11	Cancer of lung .....	10	2
12	Cancer of breast .....	—	8
13	Cancer of uterus .....	—	4
14	Other forms of cancer .....	24	17
15	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia .....	—	2
16	Diabetes .....	—	2
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system .....	41	46
18	Coronary disease, angina .....	61	31
19	Hypertension with heart disease .....	4	3
20	Other heart disease .....	26	16
21	Other circulatory disease .....	3	10
22	Influenza .....	5	2
23	Pneumonia .....	15	15
24	Bronchitis .....	31	7
25	Other diseases of respiratory system .....	6	1
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum .....	4	—
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea .....	1	—
28	Nephritis and nephrosis .....	3	2
29	Hyperplasia of prostate .....	5	—
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion .....	—	—
31	Congenital malformations .....	2	2
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases .....	21	14
33	Motor vehicle accidents .....	5	3
34	All other accidents .....	4	7
35	Suicide .....	3	4
36	Homicide and operations of war .....	—	—

# PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The following table shows the incidence of infectious disease during 1962 as compared with 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960 and 1961.

Disease	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
Scarlet Fever	27	140	54	19	5	3
Whooping Cough	107	9	5	213	12	1
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	3
Measles	1156	115	702	197	1210	674
Meningococcal Infection	3	3	1	—	1	1
Dysentery	4	—	—	11	9	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	1
Peurperal Pyrexia	1	—	1	3	—	—
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid B.	—	—	—	—	—	1
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	2	3	—	5	1	—
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	1
Poliomyelitis	2	1	—	1	6	—
Food Poisoning	3	2	4	4	1	3
Undulant Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis (infectious)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	—	3	2	1

## Distribution by Wards.

	Margam West	Margam Central	Margam North	Aberavon South	Aberavon North	Aberavon East	Aberavon West	Cwmavon	TOTALS
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	3
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Measles	15	23	3	31	7	80	457	58	674
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Paratyphoid B <sup>o</sup>	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria†	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	3
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Tuberculosis—									
Pulmonary	1	4	1	1	2	1	9	2	21
Non-Pulmonary	2	2	—	—	—	2	1	1	8

<sup>o</sup> This case was transferred from S.S. Birdwood to the Groeswen Isolation Hospital where he died.

† This case was transferred from a Norwegian ship to the Groeswen Isolation Hospital.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

### Poliomyelitis Vaccination.

Sabin oral vaccine was introduced in May, 1962 to replace the Salk Vaccine previously administered by injection.

Prior to this some 282 persons received two doses of Salk vaccine. 2,360 persons had three doses and 8 persons completed a fourth dose.

From May until the end of the year 840 persons completed a course of three administrations of oral vaccine, 2,883 were given a third (booster) dose of oral vaccine having previously received two doses of Salk vaccine and 876 persons received a fourth dose of oral vaccine after 3 previous doses of Salk.

### **Poliomyelitis.**

No cases of Poliomyelitis were notified during 1962.

### **Tuberculosis—B.C.G. Vaccination.**

This valuable form of protection against tuberculosis was made available to a further age group of school leavers, this being the eighth year of the scheme.

The parents of 959 children agreed to the procedure and the children were given the preliminary skin test. Of this number 689 were found to need vaccination of which 680 submitted to and were duly vaccinated.

Those children who gave a positive reaction to the skin test were invited to the Chest Clinic where they were duly X-rayed. 44 children were invited back for repeat X-ray after a period with satisfactory results (1 of the 44 referred back under contact surveillance) 1 chemotherapy, 1 T.B. (Cymer Afan Sec.)

### **Diphtheria Immunisation.**

During the period under review 1,832 children received their primary course of injections, 811 of these being born in 1961 and 1962. Some 4,572 older children were given their booster injections.

Three cases of diphtheria were notified during the year. The first case, a severely subnormal child was diagnosed posthumously when a diphtheritic membrane was discovered in his throat at autopsy.

An immediate follow-up at the child's home brought to light the two further cases in the persons of the child's mother and an older brother. These were immediately admitted to hospital where they were isolated and suitable treatment instituted. Both made an uneventful and satisfactory recovery.

Further researches were carried out by the Medical Officer of Health for the Neath Borough at the Occupation Centre where the child had been in attendance up to the time of his illness. It is understood that a number of symptomless carriers were discovered and appropriate remedial action taken.

## Whooping Cough.

1 child was notified as suffering from Whooping Cough during 1962. The number given protective injections amounted to 949.

## Smallpox Vaccination.

	No. Vaccinated.	No. Re- Vaccinated.
Under 1 year	780	—
1 year	703	5
2—4 years	1,126	245
5—14 years	7,412	2,143
15 years or over	13,542	16,700
TOTAL	23,563	19,093

## Smallpox.

On the 15th January, information was received that a young male Pakistani who had travelled from Birmingham to Cardiff on the 5.05 p.m. Diesel train had been diagnosed as a case of Smallpox. It appears that the man was feeling ill even during the time he was travelling on the train.

After disembarking at Cardiff he had taken a taxi to the Calcutta Restaurant, Bridge Street, where he was to have been employed as a waiter. As he was ill on arrival he was put to bed in a bedroom on the third floor where he remained until Monday, 15th, when the rash appeared and he was admitted to hospital.

All travellers on the train on the journey from Birmingham on the Saturday evening and who made use of the train on subsequent days until its withdrawal on Tuesday were considered as contacts and invited to present themselves for vaccination against Smallpox. Wide publicity was given to the need in local and national press and on all channels of radio and television. The same recommendation was made in respect of all customers at the Calcutta Restaurant during the operative period.

I am glad to be able to report that a very high percentage indeed of local train contacts presented themselves either to me or to their family doctors and were immediately vaccinated. Daily surveillance was then instituted and as vaccine became more freely available the protective measure was extended to the domiciliary contacts of the primary contacts.

The response in this group although not quite as complete as in the former was nevertheless excellent.

Careful investigations into the movement of all Pakistanis in the local community were carried out and they were kept under carefully discreet surveillance during the danger period.



All priority groups such as doctors in General Practice, Health Visitors, Public Health Inspectors, Ambulance Drivers, etc., were vaccinated or where they had previously been protected, re-vaccinated. Vaccination was also offered and carried out in the immediate family contacts of the priority groups.

These measures to contain the disease and prevent spread having been taken, care was taken to avoid panic mass vaccination which might dissipate valuable vaccine that might be vitally necessary to treat a secondary out-break.

In February, things quietened slightly but this was the lull before the great storm and, come the beginning of March, it became evident that a second wave of smallpox was starting in the Rhondda, Pontypridd and Llantrisant areas of Glamorgan, it appears that this outbreak was centred largely on the East Glamorgan Hospital at Church Village. This wave was quickly followed by a third outbreak at the Glanrhyd Hospital of the Morgannwg Management area. This last hospital contained many elderly and mentally disturbed female patients who were periodically visited by a large number of family contacts. As a result of this last outbreak a co-ordinating conference was called at Morgannwg Hospital and a series of priorities as follows were prepared for contact surveillance:

**Priority One:** Contact with patients from Glanrhyd Wards F.1, 2, 3 or 4.

The patients suffering from Smallpox were all from Ward F.3 and the other three wards are in the same block.

**Priority Two:** Contact with patients from other parts of Glanrhyd Hospital.

**Priority Three:** Contact with patients from Parc and Penyfai Hospitals.

In Port Talbot the number of persons falling into these categories were as follows:—

Priority 1	—	100
Priority 2	—	70
Priority 3	—	94

Six of the smallpox victims were Port Talbot residents and five of these unfortunately died of the disease.

Thirty persons who had been in direct contact with the patients in Ward F.3 at Glanrhyd and who had an unsatisfactory vaccination state were placed in house quarantine.

Compensation payments were made by the Borough Treasurer to the families placed in quarantine in accordance with the requirements of Section 41 (1) and (2) of the Public Health Act, 1961.

The County and Borough health teams became completely integrated during this epidemic, Public Health Inspectors and Health Visitors working side by side in their effort to contain and control the epidemic. My personal thanks goes out to all members of the team who gave of their time unstintingly throughout the whole period of the epidemic. My thanks also is due to the members of the Divisional Administrative staff who played so vital a part in co-ordinating and maintaining records and organising clinics as and where required.

**Tuberculosis.**

I append below particulars of the number of cases on the tuberculosis register at the beginning and at the end of the year, together with details of the notifications broken down into the various age groups.

**Number of Cases on Register on 1st January, 1962—434.**

	Males	Females
Pulmonary .....	189	196
Non-Pulmonary .....	20	29
Total .....	209	225

**Number of cases on Register on 31st December, 1962—401.**

	Males	Females
Pulmonary .....	169	180
Non-Pulmonary .....	20	32
Total .....	189	212

  

Number of New Notifications .....	29
No. of In-Transfers .....	10
Total .....	39
Number restored to Register .....	1
Total .....	40

Number left district .....	14
Number died .....	6
Number recovered .....	51
Number removed from Register — Diagnosis not confirmed .....	2
Unable to trace Patient .....	—
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>73</b>

### New Cases during 1962 (formally notified):—

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year .....	—	1	—	—
Over 1 year and under 5 years .....	—	—	—	—
Over 5 years and under 10 years .....	1	2	—	—
Over 10 years and under 15 years .....	—	1	—	—
Over 15 years and under 20 years .....	—	1	—	—
Over 20 years and under 25 years .....	2	1	—	1
Over 25 years and under 35 years .....	1	1	—	1
Over 35 years and under 45 years .....	2	1	2	1
Over 45 years and under 55 years .....	1	1	—	1
Over 55 years and under 65 years .....	4	1	1	—
Over 65 years .....	—	—	—	1
<b>Totals</b> .....	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>

### Cases not formally notified

(taken from local Registrar's returns):—

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Over 65 years .....	1 (died)	—	1 (died)	1 (died)

### Disinfection.

This is done in three different ways depending on the condition and type of infection dealt with.

1. Local disinfection in the sick room.
2. Disinfection by formalin.
- and 3. Disinfection at the Steam Disinfector at Groeswen Isolation Hospital by arrangement with the Hospital Authority.

## GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE DISTRICT.

### General Provisions, etc.

The Borough of Port Talbot, together with the Urban District of Glyncoirwg and the Parish of Micaelstone Higher in the Neath Rural District comprise the Port Talbot and Glyncoirwg Health Division of the Glamorgan County Council. The Borough Council

is represented on the Divisional Health Committee which is a sub-committee of the County Health Committee. In this way the Borough Council is able to express itself in matters of local importance in the Divisional administration.

It is of value therefore to the Borough Council to be aware of the activities of the Local Health Authority and I have pleasure in appending below certain statistics of interest.

### Domiciliary Midwifery Service.

Total domiciliary confinements .....	460
Doctor present .....	36
Gas and Air given .....	337
Pethidine given .....	241
Trilene given .....	200

### Domiciliary Nursing Service.

Total number of patients .....	1,149
Types of cases :	
Medical .....	817
Surgical .....	264
Infectious Diseases .....	—
Tuberculosis .....	57
Maternal Complications .....	9
Others .....	2
Total number of visits .....	38,056

### Medical Comforts.

Total Issues .....	446
Greatest demand:	
Air Rings .....	44
Bed Pans .....	77
Bed Rests .....	55
Rubber Sheets .....	84
Male Urinals .....	31
Invalid Chairs .....	44

## Home Help Service.

Total Part-Time and Casual Helps .....	63
Types of cases attended:	
Maternity .....	10
Tuberculosis .....	3
Chronic Sick (Including Aged and Infirm) .....	299
Other .....	21
Total .....	333

### Costs Charged :

	No.	%
Full Cost .....	35	13
Part Cost .....	41	28
Free .....	257	59

## Clinic Services.

### Ante-Natal and Post Natal Clinics.

Total new Ante-Natal Cases .....	1,179
Total New Post-Natal Cases .....	100
Total Attendances .....	6,133

## Infant Welfare Clinics.

No. of Attendances during year:	
of Children under one year .....	15,183
of Children over one year but under two years .....	2,640
of Children over two years but under five years .....	2,848
Total .....	20,671

## Health Visitors.

Visits to expectant mothers .....	957
Visits to children under one year .....	6,515
Visits to children over one year but under two years .....	3,601
Visits to children over two years but under five years .....	7,238
Visits to tuberculous households .....	1,185
Visits to other cases .....	5,406
Total .....	24,902

“Visits to other cases” were higher during 1962 because of the smallpox outbreak.



## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

### Removal of Persons in need of Care and Attention.

Although some five borderline cases were brought to my attention, it did not become necessary to institute Statutory Action under the National Assistance Act during 1962.

### HOUSING.

During 1962, 343 permanent houses were completed of which 245 were built by the Council and 98 by other bodies or persons.

In order that easy comparison may be made I give below the figures for the past ten years in tabulated form.

Year.	Houses Completed by Local Authority.	Houses Completed by others.	Total
1962	245	98	343
1961	223	116	339
1960	210	103	313
1959	256	63	319
1958	156	35	191
1957	454	48	502
1956	287	66	353
1955	420	63	483
1954	642	55	697
1953	630	32	662

The waiting list for re-housing by the Local Authority remains high. At the end of 1962 the Housing Manager states that 1,520 names remained on his file.

This compares with the waiting list for previous years thus:—

December 31st, 1961	1,700
“ “ 1960	1,760
“ “ 1959	1,550
“ “ 1958	1,865
“ “ 1957	1,695
“ “ 1956	1,834
“ “ 1955	1,699
“ “ 1954	1,540
“ “ 1953	1,650
“ “ 1952	1,340
“ “ 1951	1,732

I give below a table that gives an indication of some of the special categories of applicants where re-housing was effected during the period under review.

Families suffering from or exposed to Tuberculosis .....	9
Families from Condemned Houses .....	81
Families from overcrowded houses .....	6
Key Workers in Industry .....	35
Families from houses required for Road Development (Port Talbot By-Pass) .....	36

#### **Housing Act, 1936—Part IV. Overcrowding.**

No cases of statutory overcrowding within the meaning of the Act were brought to the notice of the Department during the period under review.

#### **WATER SUPPLIES.**

I summarise below a list of the sources of water brought into use during 1961.

##### **(a) Permanent Supplies.**

Cwmwernderi	—	50,000,000	galls/capacity.
Cwmgwineu	—	138,000	galls/capacity.
Ynysygwas	—	6,000,000	galls/capacity.
Cwm Varteg	—	30,000	Bryn only.
Parc-y-Bryn	—	1,700	Bryn only.
Cwmwernderi Intake	—	2,000	
Neath R.D.C.			
Cwm Philip Abst.			
Mid-Glamorgan Water Board.			

##### **(b) Temporary Auxiliary Supplies.**

Glenhafod Colliery.  
Pwlllyglaw.  
Borehole.  
Ffrwdwyllt.

The temporary supplies were brought into supply as follows:-

Glenhafod:	1	8	62	—	6	8	62
Pwlllyglaw:	22	2	62	—	9	4	62
	2	5	62	—	7	5	62
	21	5	62	—	23	5	62
	31	5	62	—	31	6	62
	25	6	62	—	19	8	62
	22	10	62	—	30	10	62
	27	11	62	—	18	12	62
	30	12	62	—	31	12	62
Borehole:	4	6	62	—	15	8	62
	17	10	62	—	7	11	62
Ffrwdwyllt	22	3	62	—	29	3	62
	26	6	62	—	15	8	62

The average daily intake (in gallons) into the mains was as follows:—

Cwmwernderi	—	945,000
Cwmgwineu	—	550,000
Ynysygwas	—	115,000
Pwlllyglaw	—	480,000
Glenhafod	—	150,000
Ffrwdwyllt	—	160,000

The Borough Engineer informs me that the average daily supply for industry mounts to 1,170,000 gallons.

Regular sampling for bacteriological and chemical purity is undertaken by the department and details of the samples taken are given by the Chief Public Health Inspector.

Month	Rainfall in inches Town Centre	State of Reservoirs		Restriction Districts (if any)
		Cwmwernderi	Ynysygwas	
January .....	4.80	O.F.	0'7" Down	—
February .....	1.75	O.F.	O.F.	—
March .....	2.25	6'9" Down	9'9" Down	—
April .....	2.20	O.F.	O.F.	—
May .....	3.95	O.F.	2'0" Down	—
June .....	.99	2'1" Down	0'7" Down	—
July .....	2.30	7'7" Down	9'4" Down	°
August .....	4.47	15'8" Down	8'5" Down	—
September .....	4.33	O.F.	2'6" Down	†
October .....	1.84	0'6" Down	3'3" Down	—
November .....	3.85	Lapping	0'2" Down	—
December .....	2.46	Level	1'7" Down	—
TOTAL .....	35.19			

° Limited restriction—washing of cars, etc.

† Withdrawal of notice.

## PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

### PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS.

In accordance with Ministerial requirements, I have to report on the Public Swimming Baths provisions being made by the Corporation.

At present the Public Swimming Baths are situated in Forge Road. The Bath, of some 56,000 gallons capacity, sixty feet long and forty feet wide and ranging in depth from three feet at the shallow end to seven feet at the deep end, is of the indoor type and is tiled in white.

Continuous filtration and chlorination to a concentration of 2.0 parts per million is maintained whilst the baths are in use, the temperature of the bath water being raised to some 80° fahrenheit. The water change-over of 14,000 gallons per hour ensures a four hourly change for the complete bath. Water comes in at the shallow end ensuring a satisfactory state of chlorination at the most thickly populated region and is drawn off at the deep end.

Two urinals and water closets opening off the main bath house serve male users whilst females have toilet arrangements adjoining the female changing rooms.

From the statistics given below it will be seen that good use is made of the auxiliary slipper baths adjoining, of which three are available to the public.

#### **Public Baths Attendances, 1962.**

Number of Admission tickets issued .....	22,839
Number of Club Members .....	4,252
Number of Hot Baths supplied .....	1,225
Number of Towels hired .....	1,046
Number of School Classes which attended .....	879
Number of Police who attended .....	45

#### **GENERAL INFORMATION.**

##### **Education.**

The following information has been provided by Mr. Eben Jones, the Divisional Education Officer :—

1. Average number of pupils attending primary and secondary schools in the Borough during 1962 ..... 9,688
2. Daily average number of pupils receiving school meals during 1962 ..... 2,813
3. Daily average number of pupils receiving milk in school during 1962 ..... 6,971

##### **Children's Department.**

Miss Beti Jones, the Glamorgan County Council Children's Officer has kindly supplied the following details :—

1. Number of children admitted to Children's Homes in 1962 ..... 32
2. Number of children admitted to Approved Schools in 1962 ..... 12

##### **Juvenile Court.**

Mr. P. H. R. Thomas, the Clerk to the Court, states that 277 children between the ages of eight and seventeen years were brought before the Juvenile Court during 1962.

## Welfare Services. Part III—Accommodation.

Eight males and four females from Port Talbot were admitted to County Council Hostels during 1962.

HOME	Male.	Female.
"Danybryn," Pontardawe .....	2	2
"Gellygron," Pontardawe .....	1	1
"Moorlands", Porthcawl .....	1	—
"Caewern," Neath .....	1	1
"Tegfan," Aberdare .....	1	—
"Gardenhurst," Penarth .....	1	—
"Eastcliffe," Penarth .....	1	—
	<hr/> 8	<hr/> 4

## Employment of Disabled Persons.

	Males.	Females.
Number Registered Disabled in December, 1962 .....	669	52
Number Registered Disabled placed in Employment in 1962 .....	89	4
Number Registered Disabled wholly Unemployed in December, 1962 .....	47	9

I append below details of the unemployment figures for Port Talbot for the past ten years:—

	Males.	Females.
December, 1953 .....	80	30
„ 1954 .....	77	39
„ 1955 .....	60	41
„ 1956 .....	89	43
„ 1957 .....	87	51
„ 1958 .....	230	123
„ 1959 .....	225	70
„ 1960 .....	188	70
„ 1961 .....	276	137
„ 1962 .....	439	137

## Industrial Medical and Amenity Services.

Mr. R. W. Tovey, Secretary and Chief Accountant of the Steel Company of Wales, Ltd., Port Talbot, has kindly submitted the following valuable particulars for inclusion in this report.

### 1. Strength of Labour Force as at December, 1962.

Staff .....	4,089
Operatives .....	14,014
	<hr/> 18,103



**2. Percentage of Registered Disabled Persons as at December,**  
3.12%

**3. Canteen Services—**

The Main Canteen at Abbey and the Margam Canteen are for staff only and operate for lunch from 12.30 p.m. to 2.00 p.m. and again for teas from 5.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. These canteens also provide a trolley service for morning coffee and tea in the afternoon.

There are ten canteens serving operatives on a platter meal service which operates at breakfast and lunch in ten different departments with provision for late teas in three departments.

In two canteens we are operating a “drug store” type service which is basically, a kitchen-to-counter arrangement, in one of these locations we provide a 24-hour 7 day week service, the other operates for breakfast and lunch.

In addition to these services there are automatic vending machines which dispense a variety of snacks of particular benefit to night shift workers. An Automatic Vending Machine Company is in addition operating machines dispensing cigarettes, sweets, milk and hot and cold beverages.

**4. Welfare Activities—**

At the Sports and Social Club there are 28½ acres of grounds devoted to the playing of outdoor games. These include Rugby (2 pitches), Soccer (1 pitch), Hockey (2 pitches), Cricket (2 squares), Tennis (4 hard courts), one Bowling Green, one Putting Green, and a short nine hole golf course all of which are well used by members. The sections listed above play regularly and in addition the grounds are used for friendly and inter-departmental games by employees of the Company. Cognisance is taken of the needs of local organisations too, for the Police, local schools, Glamorgan County Cricket Club, the Welsh Women's Hockey Association and Glamorgan County Hockey have all been accommodated here.

Facilities exist for a motoring section, a sailing section and a swimming section (this last in Port Talbot Baths).

To cater for the needs of the indoor enthusiasts a spacious clubhouse with two bars is provided where Billiards, Snooker, Darts, Table Tennis, Badminton and social amenities are provided.

It is hoped that extensions to both buildings and grounds will commence soon. The subscription of threepence per week is not to be raised for the time being.

Not only is the employee of the Company thus catered for but for a subscription of five shillings per annum family membership may also be enjoyed.

## **5. Atmospheric Pollution.**

The main source of atmospheric pollution from the Plant at Port Talbot is due to the red oxide fume emission. The source of the emission has been the 24 open hearth furnace chimneys situated at the Melting Shops at Port Talbot, Margam and Abbey Works and from the VLN Plant. In June, 1961, the six chimneys at Port Talbot Works were rendered inoperative by the closing down of the Melting Shop. In April, 1963, a further six chimneys at Margam Works became inoperative by the closing of the Melting Shop at Margam Works. Between these dates, four of the large 400 tons Maerz Boelens open hearth furnaces at Abbey Works (the largest open hearth furnaces in the Steel Division) were equipped with electrostatic precipitation equipment which is now operating. Thus only eight of the original 24 chimneys can now be a source of fume emission from open hearth furnaces.

Additional to the red oxide fume emission much work has been done on dust emission problems:—

- (i) At the Sinter Plant where electrostatic precipitation units have been installed and are operating.
- (ii) At the Coke Ovens where grit arrester equipment has been installed on all coke quenching towers and at the Coke Screens where mechanical dust collectors have been installed.
- (iii) At the Coal Crushing Plant and at the Grange Tipplers where chemical jet dust suppression units have been installed.
- (iv) At the Automatic Scarfing Plant at Abbey Works where an electrostatic precipitation plant has been installed.

All this work has involved the Company up to the present time in capital expenditure alone amounting to £1,360,000 (excluding maintenance and operating costs which are very considerable). It should also be noted that the fine iron ore stockyard adjacent to the Sinter Plant has been enclosed at a cost of £13,000.

**BOROUGH OF PORT TALBOT**

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## Chief Public Health Inspector

For the Year ended 31st December,

1962



## BOROUGH OF PORT TALBOT

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To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the  
Borough of Port Talbot.

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Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report for the year 1962. It is a particular privilege, as it is the first of my reports prepared since I was honoured by being appointed Chief Public Health Inspector to succeed Mr. G. A. Morgan. Mr. Morgan did not retire until the 31st October, 1962, and, therefore, despite my signature to this report, the biggest part of the credit for it must still go to Mr. Morgan.

We have pursued our problems of environmental hygiene with the same drive that has been presented over the years, with perhaps slightly a quieter approach to them just before and after the 1st November in adjusting the Department to the change of leadership.

There has had to be the need to be prepared to deal with new problems always presenting themselves in a quickly developing Borough—not in the least of these being the rapidly expanding beach, catering for some many thousands of our own town's folk and, of course, visitors from near and far. At times well over a hundred thousand people visit our beach in a single day and the responsibility of ensuring hygienic conditions, particularly where the sale and preparation of foods is concerned, is a major one and constant vigilance is needed and exercised by the staff.

Slum clearance continues to be a major feature of our work and we maintain the tempo in accord with the ability of the Authority to build new houses for the families displaced from unfit dwellings.

I look forward to a fruitful period as Chief Public Health Inspector in the full knowledge that I shall have the faithful support of every member of my staff as was always accorded my predecessor. My grateful thanks for a happy association are extended to Dr. D. H. J. Williams, Medical Officer of Health, and I much appreciate the co-operation in all matters given me by the heads of all departments.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

LESLIE J. CARTER,

Chief Public Health Inspector.



Report of Chief Public Health Inspector under the Factories  
and Housing Act, etc.

**GENERAL INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.**

Housing Inspections and re-inspections .....	4,010
Structural Defects .....	1,912
Drains, Yards, W.C's, etc. ....	1,760
Common Lodging Houses .....	7
Amusement Houses and Cinemas, etc. ....	68
Verminous Premises .....	54
Dirty Premises .....	35
Accumulations .....	188
Ash Pits, Privies and Cesspools .....	26
Tents, Vans, Sheds and Caravans .....	42
Dairies and Milk Shops .....	96
Food Premises, Kitchen and Food Vehicles .....	1,709
Houses let in lodgings, tenements, etc. ....	51
Offensive Trades .....	60
Factories .....	517
Fish Friers .....	69
Ice-cream .....	299
Bakehouses .....	90
Want of Cleanliness .....	7
Overcrowding .....	3
Drainage of floors .....	4
Insufficient sanitary accommodation .....	5
Unreasonable temperature .....	3
Inadequate ventilation .....	3
Need of separate sanitary accommodation for Sexes .....	5
Schools .....	65
Pig Styes and Swine Keeping .....	66
Stables, Refuse and Manure .....	17
Rats and Mice .....	7,656
Animals Improperly Kept .....	9
Smoke Nuisances .....	321
Meat Inspection and Other Food .....	2,394
Slaughterhouses .....	841

Water supplies .....	57
Water Sampling—Bacteriological .....	158
Water Sampling—Chemical .....	21
Food and Drugs Sampling .....	308
Milk Sampling .....	83
Interviews with owners, etc. ....	1,815
Atmospheric Pollution Checks .....	56
Court Cases .....	1
Public Houses .....	102
Infectious Diseases (including visits during Smallpox outbreak) .....	281
Ice-cream bacteriological sampling .....	11
Oil Pollution on foreshore .....	8
Shops and Offices .....	37
Noise Nuisances .....	13
Hospitals .....	15
Attendances at Lectures .....	13
Cemetaries .....	13
Council Yards .....	50
Disinfestation .....	27

### HOUSING INSPECTIONS.

Number of houses inspected for defects under the Public Health and Housing Acts .....	482
Number of visits of inspection in respect of same .....	4249
Number of houses found unfit for human habitation .....	74
Number of houses found not in all respects to be reasonably fit for human habitation .....	408
Number of houses rendered fit after service of Notices .....	353

Some of the houses found not in all respects fit for human habitation in the latter part of 1962 would not be rendered fit until sometime in 1963, whereas some of the houses rendered fit in 1962 followed Notices served in the latter part of 1961.

The number of nuisances discovered, together with the number of Notices served during the year were as follows:—

Nature of Inspection	Nuisances discovered	Informal Notices served	Abatement Notices served
Structural Defects .....	118	118	20
Drains, Yards, W.C's, etc. ....	143	143	7
Dirty Conditions .....	12	12	1
Pig-Styes and Swine keeping .....	33	33	—
Water Supplies .....	2	2	—
Food Premises .....	68	68	—
Atmospheric Pollution .....	10	10	—
Rats and Mice .....	16	16	—
Accumulations .....	66	66	1
Verminous infestations .....	49	49	—
Overcrowding—Housing Act .....	5	5	—
Factories .....	11	11	—
Dairies .....	1	1	—
Stables, Manure and Refuse .....	3	3	—
Animals improperly kept .....	4	4	—
Mobile Shops .....	28	28	—
Tents, Vans and Sheds .....	13	13	—
Noise Nuisances .....	9	9	—
Offensive trades .....	3	3	—
Cinemas .....	1	1	—
Totals .....	595	595	29

The nature of the work carried out to abate the various nuisances and contraventions was as follows:—

### Houses :

Walls repaired 15; Walls repointed 3; Troughings repaired 12; Down pipes repaired/renewed 15; External plastering repaired 12; Internal wall and ceiling plastering repaired 58; Roofs repaired 54; Floors repaired 17; Skirtings repaired or renewed 6; Windows repaired 71; Window cords renewed 8; Doors renewed or repaired 11; Yard areas repaired/renewed 9; Dampness abated 34; Water service pipes repaired 1; Floors ventilated 1; Chimneys repaired 3; Staircases repaired 3; Grates or ovens renewed or repaired 1; Air bricks provided 1; Fire places repaired 3; Back boilers renewed 1; Lighting and ventilation or rooms improved 2; Walls or ceilings cleansed or reddecorated 3; Flooding abated 20.

### Drainage :

Waste pipes cleansed 5; Drains cleansed 159; Drains repaired or relaid 29; Soil pipes or vent shafts repaired or renewed 7; Drains tested 31; New gullies provided 3; Inspection chambers provided/repared 14; Sink waste pipes repaired or trapped 5.

### Toilets, Fittings, etc.:

New W.C. closets provided 2; Flushing tanks renewed or repaired 24; W.C. pans renewed 6; W.C's cleansed 6; W.C's reconstructed 1; W.C. seats renewed 2; Miscellaneous repairs 6.

**Verminous and dirty houses:**

(Bugs, fleas and other pests). Houses disinfested 62; Bedding destroyed or disinfected 4.

**Cinemas:**

Cleansed or redecorated 1; W.C's repaired 1.

**Keeping of Animals:**

Nuisances abated 3; Stables cleansed 1; Accumulations removed 44.

**Piggeries:**

Styles properly drained 2; Cesspools cleansed or repaired 6; Structures repaired or improved 6; Other nuisances abated 12.

**Schools:**

W.C's cleansed 1; Urinals cleansed 1; Urinals repaired 1.

**Water Supply:**

Water taps or pipes repaired or renewed 15.

**Noise Nuisances:**

Silencers fitted 1.

**Rats and Mice:**

Premises baited—Houses 1,050; Council premises 31; Business premises 125; Agricultural premises 32; Infestations removed 872; Drains repaired 4; Sewers repaired 1; Premises rat-proofed 2.

**Tents, Vans and Sheds:**

Caravans removed from unauthorised sites 2.

**Food Premises:**

Hot water and washing facilities provided 10; Premises redecorated or cleansed 52; Storage arrangements improved 3; Refuse bins provided 6; Accumulations removed 5; Walls repaired 4; Floors repaired 2; Ventilation improved 1; Improved protection of food provided 10; Miscellaneous improvements 7.

**Food Vehicles :**

Name and address affixed to vehicles 9; Cleanliness improved 1; Protective coverings provided to vehicles 2; Washing facilities provided e.g., soap, nail brushes, towels 11.

## MEAT AND OTHER FOOD INSPECTION.

An important part of the duties of your Public Health Inspectors is the inspection of meat at the Public Abattoir. We are a Meat Marking Authority and the Inspector is on duty before slaughtering commences and does not leave the premises until slaughtering has finished for the day. The methods and criteria of meat inspection recommended by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food are strictly complied with. The quantity of diseased and unsound meat condemned at the Abattoir during the year, was as follows:—

### Bulls, Bullocks and Heifers.

#### TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.

Carcase and all organs .....	1	Heads and Tongues .....	4
Stomach and intestines .....	1	Liver .....	1
Kidney .....	1	Lungs .....	3

#### DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS.

12 Heads and Tongues	—	3 C. Bovis; 7 Actinomycosis; 2 Fibrosis.
160 Lungs	—	93 Pleurisy; 6 Cysts; 40 Congested; 18 Pneumonia; 3 Abscess.
1 Heart	—	Pericarditis.
68 Livers	—	48 Distomatosis; 6 Cirrhosis; 13 Abscess; 1 Neerosis.
92 Part Livers	—	88 Distomatosis; 4 Cirrhosis.
10 Splens	—	9 Peritonitis; 1 Congested.
8 Omentums and Stomachs	—	5 Peritonitis; 3 C. Bovis.
2 Mesenteries and Intestines	—	2 C. Bovis.

### Cows.

#### DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS.

2 Lungs	—	Pleurisy.
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### Calves.

#### DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS

5 Lungs	—	2 Pneumonia; 2 Congested; 1 Pleurisy.
1 Liver	—	Degenerated.



### Pigs.

#### TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.

28 Heads and Tongues	—	4 Loins.
4 Forequarters	—	1 Lung.
1 Liver	—	1 Heart.
1 Stomach, Mesenteries and Intestines		

#### DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS.

3 Carcases and all organs	—	1 Acute Swine Erysipelas; 2 Bruising and emaciation.
1 Shoulder	—	Abseess.
1 Leg	—	Arthritis.
1 Part hindquarter	—	Abseess.
6 Hoeks	—	Arthritis.
876 Lungs	—	185 Congested; 646 Pneumonia; 45 Pleurisy.
271 Livers	—	1 Cyst.; 200 Cirrhosis; 11 Peritonitis; 58 Necrosis; 1 Degenerated.
50 Hearts	—	Pericarditis.
58 Kidneys	—	49 Nephritis; 1 Cyst; 8 Haemorrhagic.
2 Spleens	—	Peritonitis.
11 Stomachs, Mesenteries and Intestines	—	11 Peritonitis.

### Sheep.

4 Carcases and all organs	—	1 Dropsy; 3 Bruising and emaciation.
1 Leg	—	Injury.
931 Lungs	—	70 Strongyli; 241 Parasitic; 11 Pleurisy; 535 Pneumonia; 74 Congested.
729 Livers	—	113 Distomatosis; 564 Parasitic; 23 Cysts; 3 Peritonitis; 4 Degenerated; 18 Cirrhosis; 4 Abseess.
12 Hearts	—	7 Pericarditis; 4 Cysts; 1 Parasitic.

The percentage figures for the various diseases over a period of years are as follows:—

### Tuberculosis.

Year.	Cattle excluding		Cows.		Calves.	Sheep and		Pigs.
	Cows.					Lambs.		
1948	4.13		29.2		.066	—		4.8
1949	12.86		29.5		.109	—		6.8
1950	11.2		24.4		.026	—		5.2
1951	8.63		30.6		.036	—		12.8
1952	7.41		20.57		.051	—		13.17
1953	7.98		15.74		.074	—		7.53
1954	4.63		9.14		.08	—		5.26
1955	7.79		8.21		—	—		3.64
1956	7.55		8.93		—	—		3.11
1957	3.53		16.66		.25	—		1.24
1958	6.22		20.0		—	—		2.36
1959	16.25		—		—	—		2.4
1960	.67		—		—	—		1.82
1961	.093		—		—	—		2.81
1962	0.61		—		—	—		1.07

### Diseases other than Tuberculosis.

Year.	Cattle excluding		Cows.		Calves.	Sheep and		Pigs.
	Cows.					Lambs.		
1948	39.5		62.8		.84	37.4		24.7
1949	48.0		56.8		1.34	41.36		34.5
1950	57.1		66.1		3.6	45.1		43.4
1951	58.19		62.2		5.5	50.0		53.99
1952	64.71		76.04		7.05	46.8		52.5
1953	53.0		63.3		5.26	43.75		50.3
1954	53.1		68.57		5.66	32.04		53.32
1955	40.2		80.67		6.6	18.24		26.25
1956	54.16		69.64		3.22	18.3		7.7
1957	48.82		84.72		3.51	19.88		27.04
1958	48.22		53.33		1.70	28.11		31.73
1959	50.7		50.0		2.0	21.3		27.6
1960	43.19		50.0		1.86	12.9		28.02
1961	32.92		40.0		.79	14.6		35.57
1962	26.86		10.0		1.5	16.01		38.55

### Bovine Cysticercosis.

Year	CATTLE OTHER THAN COWS.			COWS.		
	Examined	Affected	Percentage	Examined	Affected	Percentage
1950	2003	64	3.19	1078	43	3.99
1951	2629	66	2.51	677	8	1.19
1952	2171	75	3.45	409	10	2.24
1953	1991	38	1.91	578	6	1.03
1954	2590	33	1.27	525	4	0.76
1955	2015	20	0.99	207	4	1.93
1956	1549	18	1.17	56	1	1.78
1957	1415	19	1.34	72	—	—
1958	1012	23	2.27	15	—	—
1959	785	11	1.4	2	—	—
1960	889	11	1.23	2	—	—
1961	1069	10	.93	5	—	—
1962	983	3	0.31	10	—	—

## UN SOUND OR UNWHOLESOME FOOD CONDEMNED OR SURRENDERED FROM FOOD PREMISES THROUGHOUT THE BOROUGH DURING THE YEAR :

We continue an amicable arrangement with our food suppliers, both retailers and wholesalers, whereby the principle of voluntary surrender of all unsound food to us is carried out. By this means we feel satisfied that very little unsound or diseased food is allowed to stay in a shop or warehouse longer than is necessary. Our regular visits to food premises give us an opportunity to examine stocks on shelves or in store rooms and blown or dented cans, etc., or other unsound articles of food can be spotted quickly and withdrawn from sale. This system helps to avoid friction with food dealers and it is also the means of keeping assistants in shops knowledgeable in the identification of unsound foods e.g. blown and springing cans, mite infested flours, etc.

The food condemned or surrendered during the year was as follows:—

### **Canned Foods:**

*Meat*—14 cwt.=378 tins. *Meat Produce*—26 lbs.=72 tins. *Raw Meat*—10¼ cwt.; *Rabbits*—60 lbs.; *Soups*—1 cwt. 77 lbs.=190 tins. *Sausages*—1 cwt.

### **Canned Fruit:**

9 cwt. 46 lbs.=722 tins.

### **Dried Fruit:**

27 lbs.=18 tins.

### **Canned Vegetables:**

2½ cwt.=254 tins.

### **Fish:**

70 lbs.=76 tins.

### **Cereals:**

63 lbs.=60 tins.

### **Canned Milk:**

5½ lbs.+37½ pints=27 tins

### **Poultry:**

2 cwt. 79 lbs.

### **Fruit Juices:**

6 lbs. 2 ozs.=8 tins

## Miscellaneous:

*Jam*—65 lbs.=9 tins; *Whole frozen egg*—2 lbs.=2 tins; *Sourcroust*—2 lbs.=1 tin; *Lettuce*—28 crates.

The total weight of the foregoing foodstuffs amounted to 2 tons, 4 cwt., 52 lbs., 10 ozs., 28 crates, and 37½ pints.

## FOOD SUBMITTED FOR ANALYSIS.

### Inspection and Sampling of Foods and Drugs to safeguard quality, description, etc.

During the year 308 samples of various foods and drugs were taken and submitted to the Public Analyst at the County Public Health Laboratory, Cardiff.

It will be observed that of this number only two were adulterated—this being referred to in the next section of this report.

We maintain a system of sampling which is in accord with the recognised standards laid down for the population of the Borough and endeavour to ensure that the widest variety is sampled with an even distribution over the whole Borough. We aim, too, to have a selective method of sampling drugs:—

The number and variety of foods submitted for analysis were as follows:—

Milk 44; Condensed Milk 2; Cream 4; Margarine 2; Cake Mix 4; Crispbread 1; Gravy browning 1; Bovril 1; Pickled Beetroot 1; Pickles 4; Chutney 1; Sauce 6; Prepared Mustard 1; Ground Mixed Spice 1; Dried Sage 1; Vegetable Soup Powder 2; Canned Soup and Stew 4; Canned Meat Products 25; Canned Fish Products 15; Canned Vegetables 13; Canned Fruit 6; Canned Spaghetti 1; Canned Sponge Pudding 5; Canned Tomato Juice 1; Harrirot Beans 2; Faggots and Peas 1; Potted Salmon 1; Bottled Cooked Mussels 1; Marmite 2; Horlicks Food Beverage 1; Coffee and Chieory Essenee 2; Cake Covering Mix 1; Marmalade 2; Mincemeat 2; Prunes 2; Flour Confectionery 2; Blancmange Powder 1; Thyme and Parsely Stuffing 1; Pickled Onions 1; Gherkins 1; Curry Powder 1; Ground Ginger 1; Fruit Juice 1; Baby Food 3; Spaghetti Bolognese 1; Potted Beef with butter 1; Beef Sausages 2; Meat Paste 3; Tomato Paste 1; Processed Cheese Slices 4; Whisky 4; Brandy 1; Vodka 1; Gelatine 1; Table Jelly Compound 1; Vanilla Sugar 1; Bottled Cookies 1; Essence of Anethories 1; Dehydrated French Beans 1; Dried Fruit 2; Mixed Cut Peel 4; Laxative Tablets 1; Glycerine, Lemon and Honey Cough Mixture 1; Aluminium Hydroxide Gel 1; Asprin Tablets 1; Cheese 1; Dessicated Coconut 3; Mazipan 2; Stone Dates 1; Eno Fruit Salts 1; Krusehen Salts 1; Raspberry Vinegar 1; Cough Mixture 1; Tonie Yeast Tablets 1; Extraet of Malt with Cod Liver Oil 1; Syrup of Figs 1; Vitamin Capsules 7; Epsom Salts 2; Ice-Cream 3; Vegetable Oil 1; Shredded Beef Suet 1; Semolina 1; Dessert Powder 2; Cranberry Chutney 1; Frozen Beef Burgers 2; Cheese Spread 1; Sandwich Spread 3; Blaekcurrant Cordial 1; Lemonade/Powder 3; Crem-de-menthe liqueurs 1; Honey 3; Jam 3; Raisins 1; Sterilized Cream 2; Butter 1; Ground Almonds 1; Peanut Butter 2; Wholemeal Wheat Bread Slices 1; Wholemeal Rye Bread Slices 1; Oatrez 2; Energen Rolls 1; Cream Sponge 1; Savoury Noodles 1; Breakfast Oats 1; Home Bread Mix 1; Christmas Pudding 4; Pie Filling 1; Onion and Gravy Salt 2; French Dressing 1; Mineed Turkey in Jelly 1; Minced Chieken in Jelly 1; Sausages and Sausage Meat 3; Pork Pie 1; Sausage Rolls 1; Fish Paste 1; Instant Welsh Rarebit 1; Sunny Spread 1; Gin 1; Prepared Jelly 1; Glaeed Angelica 1; Vitamin Pellets 2.

Total Number of Samples .....	308
Genuine .....	306
Adulterated .....	2

The comparison with the previous years is as follows :—

Year	No. of Samples taken	Genuine	Not Genuine
1950	242	232	10
1951	229	220	9
1952	259	250	9
1953	274	267	7
1954	240	236	4
1955	300	299	1
1956	312	304	8
1957	323	320	3
1958	337	326	11
1959	307	304	3
1960	307	305	2
1961	308	307	1
1962	308	306	2

Number of samples taken per 1,000 of population—Estimated 51,000 .....	6.04
Percentage of Milks taken not conforming to standards in relation to number taken .....	Nil.
Percentage of Foods other than Milk not conforming to standards in relation to number taken .....	.76

### ADULTERATED SAMPLES.

Two samples, one informal, the other formal, were found on analysis to be adulterated. These being Capsules of Halibut Liver Oil B.P. The deficiency in vitamin A content being 33% and 22% respectively. Action was taken under the Food and Drugs Act regarding the formal sample.

### Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations 1925/1953

All the samples of milk, condensed milk, sterilised cream, cream and ice-cream were free from preservatives.

The following foods were reported upon as being free from sulphites:— Savoury Noodles; Breakfast Oats; Dried Food; Home Bread Mix; Christmas Pudding; Cake Mix; Pie Filling; Minced Turkey in Jelly; Minced Chicken in Jelly; Pork Pie; Meat Paste; Fish Paste; Honey; Jam; Mincemeat; Prepared Jelly; Mixed Peel; Glace Cherries; Glace Angelica; Dried Fruit; Wholemeal Wheat and Rye Bread Slices; Energen Rolls; Oatrex; Flour Confectionery; Blancmange Powder; Thyme and Parsley Stuffing; Pickled Onions; Pickled Gherkins; Sauce; Potted Beef with Butter; Tomato Paste; Sandwich Spread; Processed Cheese Slices; Soft Drink Powder; Table Jelly Compound; Vanilla Sugar; Bottled Cockles; Prunes; Dried Fruit; Mixed Cut Peel; Semolina; Cake and Sponge Mixture;



Dessert Powder; Soup Powder; Cranberry Chutney; Frozen Beef-burgers; Harricot Beans; Faggots and Peas; Gravy Browning; Raisins; Bovril; Pickled Beetroot; Potted Salmon; Bottled Cooked Mussels; Crispbread; Chutney; Marmite; Horlicks; Cake Covering Mix; Marmalade; Stone Dates.

The analysis of the following foods showed them to be free from Boric Acid:—Cheese; Minced Turkey in Jelly; Minced Chicken in Jelly; Pork Pie; Margarine; Beef Sausages; Sausages and Sausage Meat; Meat Paste; Fish Paste; Cheese Spread; Instant Welsh Rarebit; Butter; Potted Beef with Butter; Frozen Beef-burgers.

The following were free from Benzoic and Salicylic Acids:—Pickled Onions; Pickled Gherkins; Sauce; Jam; Blackcurrant Cordial; Pickled Beetroot; Chutney.

The following were within permissible limit of Sulphur Dioxide:—Beef Sausage; Gelatine; Dehydrated French Beans; Pork Sausages; and Sausage Meat; Blackcurrant Cordial.

### THE SALE OF MILK REGULATIONS.

The regulations provide that unless milk contains a minimum of 3% fat and 8.5% milk solids other than milk fat, it shall be presumed—until the contrary is proved, that the milk is not genuine. It is claimed that there is a steady decline in the composition of milk in various parts of the country. The average percentage composition of the whole of the milk samples in the Borough of Port Talbot in 1962 was as follows:—

Number of milk samples taken.	Milk fat Percentage.	Non-fatty solids— Percentage.
44	3.75%	8.69%

The figures for the ten previous years were as follows:—

Year	No. of milk samples examined	Milk fat percentage	Non-fatty solids— percentage
1951	126	3.49%	8.65%
1952	133	3.55%	8.65%
1953	128	3.62%	8.66%
1954	104	3.66%	8.63%
1955	84	3.53%	8.66%
1956	72	3.60%	8.75%
1957	65	3.66%	8.45%
1958	69	3.66%	8.45%
1959	40	3.77%	8.64%
1960	62	3.66%	8.65%
1961	44	3.71%	8.64%

**The Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959.**  
**The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960.**  
**The Milk and Dairies (Channel Islands and South**  
**Devon Milk). Regulations, 1956.**

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food remain responsible for duties in connection with dairy farms, and the registration of persons carrying on or proposing to engage in the business of a dairy farmer.

The Local Authority's duties are to enforce the Regulations relative to the treatment and handling of milk; the provisions regarding the infection of milk and protection against contamination, the cleansing and storage of vessels, utensils and appliances, the conveyance and distribution of milk; the registration of dairies, other than dairy farms, and of distributors.

The number of Licences granted for the sale of pasteurised, sterilised, and tuberculin tested milk in this Borough is 51.

All dairies and milk shops, etc. were regularly inspected throughout the year. Judicious sampling of all milk sold from wholesale and retail establishments and during delivery to various parts of the Borough was maintained. The number of samples procured, the examination undertaken, and the result of such examination were as follows:—

**Milk Sampled for Bacteriological Purposes:**

	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.
Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised .....	14	—
Pasteurised .....	9	—
C.I. Pasteurised .....	6	—
Sterilised .....	11	—

**Milk Sampled for Adulteration:**

Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised .....	14	—
Pasteurised .....	9	—
C.I. Pasteurised .....	6	—
Sterilised .....	10	—
Homogenised T.T. (Past) .....	5	—

It is pleasing to note that the results of the examination of all samples of milk taken were satisfactory.

I continue to be concerned with the practice, despite endeavours to prevent it, of leaving empty and unwashed milk bottles on grass verges, street corners, etc. where unnecessary contamination of the bottles can take place. The type of contamination that can be caused to unprotected bottles in this way may be of

the kind that is not easily removed in the washing process at the dairy and this, if missed, could be the cause of subsequent complaint by the customer. We continue our efforts to have the co-operation of the dairymen in this matter. Fortunately during the year we have not had to deal with any complaints of milk sold from dirty bottles but until the practice is completely stopped it is by no means certain that this will continue to be the case.

There are a number of milk vending automatic machines in different parts of the Borough, and it can be said in their favour that the milk is sold in non-returnable cartons. One hopes that in the course of time it may be possible for the industry to develop this method more, as this seems to be the only means of ensuring a completely hundred per cent elimination of the types of contamination referred to.

### **BACTERIOLOGICAL SAMPLING OF ICE CREAM**

It is pleasing to note that during the year all samples (eleven in number) taken for bacteriological examination were satisfactory and classified Grade I.

### **INDUSTRIAL CATERING AND AUTOMATIC VENDING OF FOOD**

During 1958 a change in the catering methods was established on the premises of the Steel Company of Wales, hot snacks, meals and drinks being supplied through vending machines. Commercially this has not been the success that was anticipated as there has been a gradual decline in the number of machines and types of food supplied. It is now felt that the employees prefer to have their hot snacks and meals supplied direct and a gradual re-opening of canteens for the supply of meals from kitchen to canteen is taking place.

Throughout the Company there are twelve canteens. Three of them supply kitchen to canteen service. The other nine supply hot meals in a platter service. This entails the food being prepared and cooked at the main canteen and then transported in insulated containers to the respective canteens and placed in hot serving counters. The meal itself is placed in tinfoil containers with lids. All meals left after serving a set meal are placed in waste containers.

In addition to this service, machine vending of certain items is also available. At present 103 vending machines are scattered throughout the works supplying cold snacks such as pies and biscuits, ice-cream and drinks (milk, orange, coffee, tea and chocolate).

The 103 Vending Machines are made up as follows:—

- 5 Ice Cream.
- 57 Snacks (pies, pasties and biscuits).
- 7 Coffee/chocolate.
- 25 Milk.
- 5 Orange.
- 4 Tea.

Throughout the Town, also, there are numerous machines vending the following such foods as Milk; Squash; Hot Drinks and Chocolates. Careful attention is paid to the machines as regards their cleanliness, and purchases are made periodically for Bacteriological and Food and Drugs Sampling.

When automatic vending started in industrial concerns in the Borough we found that it brought in its train an unusually large number of difficulties. This was most surprising to food operators as one feels they had a natural tendency to believe the machines to be perfect in every way.

A very large number of complaints were made by consumers particularly in relation to receiving food affected with mould and in varying stages of decomposition. The trouble centred on the maintenance of uniform temperatures, and variation in temperatures were immediately apparent because of the continuous opening and shutting of the slot drawer containing food when purchases were made. This naturally attracted into the machine the temperature of the surrounding room oftentimes warmer than the interior of the machine and foods such as meat products were then subjected to greater temperatures and for longer periods than was necessary. A further difficulty presented itself in choosing the right moment to discard prepared food from the machine if unsold. This type of difficulty was only overcome completely when a foolproof system of coding was adopted.

We found that great attention was needed to maintain complete cleanliness and hygienic conditions of the internal and external parts of the machine and in particular much attention was needed at the dispensing section when such foods as milk and milk drinks, etc., were sold.

It is true to say that slowly the desire of employees to purchase food in this manner decreased and in time there was a reversion to the traditional method of purchasing the food by self service over the counter. However, there still remains the automatic sales of the foods referred to above.



## **ICE-CREAM.**

With the rapid development of our Beach the problems relating to the manufacture and sale of ice-cream have been made even more important than ever. In addition to the normal quantities sold elsewhere in the Borough huge quantities of ice-cream are sold at the beach and this can be appreciated by the fact that on a Bank Holiday, accompanied by fine weather, there could easily be in the region of three hundred thousand people congregated there.

The Promenade and Tea Gardens are well supplied with permanent stalls and kiosks, mostly selling already manufactured ice-cream, but some making and selling soft ice-cream from approved appliances.

Soft-ice-cream is sold in rapidly increasing quantities and we appreciate the paramount importance of ensuring complete efficiency in the sterilization of all component parts of the machine. A number of vans are equipped also for the sale of soft ice-cream. A real problem is that of being certain that every person handling these appliances is well drilled in all aspects of personal hygiene and the hygienic condition of the apparatus, vehicle or stall.

I feel it a duty to make my own contribution to what I feel is the urgent necessity for the Minister to implement Section 21 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, as to the making of regulations to license vehicles, stalls and places other than premises for the preparation and sale of food for human consumption. Without licensing, proper supervision of this kind of food structure is not possible. We are never sure what kind of vehicle will suddenly arrive on our streets with even at times food handled in a most unsatisfactory manner and contained in a very poor type of vehicle.

As no doubt with most towns, the bulk of our ice-cream is purchased from the big suppliers, and there are now very few local manufacturers. This is a sad trend as in the past our local people maintained an excellent standard of production.

## **FOOD HYGIENE.**

We are continuing to be reasonably well satisfied with the standards of food hygiene maintained in the Borough. There are, of course, the few who seem unable fully to appreciate the necessity of obeying the food hygiene regulations properly but these, fortunately, represent a very small minority of our traders.



Our early work, ten or more years ago, in implementing the food hygiene regulations so thoroughly paid great dividends as the pattern then laid down has been well followed. One trader finds in order to maintain good business that he must copy his neighbour who has installed refrigerated cabinets and counters or otherwise provided better protection to his food.

We are endeavouring wherever possible to implement the provisions of the regulations relating to the installation of washing basins with hot water for personal hygiene, in addition to the installation of wash-up sinks for the sterilisation of equipment, etc. I feel very strongly that the law relating to the provision of hot water in food stalls and vehicles is not strong enough. There seems no reason at all now that hot water units can be so easily provided that the law should not apply to all vehicles and stalls in the same way as it does to permanent shops.

One is disgusted in imagining the circumstances which arise every day when at some time or other food handlers in the distributive trades having to use a public convenience, return to the handling of food, whether open or not, without the washing of his hands.

Constant vigilance is needed too, in making sure that all handlers of open food do not smoke. There is always the odd person somewhere who will be found continuing this practice and I would like to put in a plea for better legislation in this respect. Open food, for example, must surely exclude milk in bottles and handlers of such food in my judgment should be precluded from smoking but clearly, the regulations do not prohibit his doing so. Our early work in causing all open shops selling food to be provided with shop windows also paid excellent dividends, as we find in Port Talbot that food handlers generally agree that it is wrong for food to be displayed outside shops with the obvious risk of contamination.

The increase in industrial canteens also present constant problems because of the vast numbers of people using them. We feel fortunate that by and large, the control of these canteens is in good hands.

Our promenade is well provided with permanent food shops and stalls, and in addition the Port Talbot Corporation has two tea gardens where light refreshments are partaken in the open air.

## PUBLIC HOUSES

We are paying constant attention to the condition of our Public Houses and Hotels. Four of our Hotels in particular provide facilities for dinner parties as well as providing for ordinary meals. Shortly before the Annual Brewster Sessions we join with a representative of the Glamorgan Police Office in a visitation of all licensed premises and this type of co-operation has proved of great value to both the police and ourselves.

### PREMISES REGISTERED UNDER SECTION 16 FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955:

Premises registered under the above Act are:—

Ice-cream premises 147; Fish Frying premises 14; Sausage and prepared meat premises 41.

The general standard of these premises continues to be good and the improvements that have been carried out during recent years have been well maintained.

### Number, Type and Classification of Food Premises.

The following are the variety of food premises for which complete records are now filed at the office:—

Licensed premises .....	40
Bakehouses .....	7
Wet Fish, Fruit and Vegetables .....	9
Grcengrocers .....	12
Grocers .....	168
Catering Establishments .....	12
Butchers .....	40
Wet Fish .....	3
Fish Friers .....	14
Miscellaneous .....	23

We have, also in addition to our Municipal Market, a number of works or industrial canteens, stalls at the Beach, and Mobile Shops or Street Trading Vans.

## Water Samples.

One hundred and fifty eight samples of water were taken by your Public Health Inspectors for bacteriological examination during the year. These represent a carefully selected series of samples prepared in consultation with the Medical Officer of Health so that month by month a complete check is made of every source used in the Borough for drinking purposes and also for swimming purposes in our in-door baths.

A total of twenty-six samples were found to be bacteriologically unsatisfactory and of these eighteen were of unchlorinated water and eight were taken after treatment. These are particularized as follows:—

**Before Chlorination:** River Ffrwdwyllt 6 samples; Cwmbrombil Reservoir 7 samples; Margam Leate 1 sample; River Neath 4 samples.

**After chlorination and/or treatment:** River Ffrwdwyllt supply 5 samples; Aberavon area 2 samples; Margam area 1 sample.

In December the corporation commenced an abstraction of water from the River Neath by which arrangement the town's supply is suitably augmented.

In collaboration with the Medical Officer of Health and the Borough Engineer we commenced a system of sampling at various points to cover the water in its raw river condition and after filtration and chlorination. Further samples are taken at different points in its passage to Ynysygwas Reservoir and through to the consumer.

Attention as to the purity of our water at our in-door swimming baths is given at regular intervals through the season and samples are taken at both the inlet and outlet to the baths, and in all instances the Analyst reports the water to be bacteriologically pure.

The Port Talbot Docks which comes under the jurisdiction of the Swansea Port Health Authority are nevertheless supplied with water from the British Transport Commission Reservoir to Cwmbrombil Reservoir augmented by our own Council Supply. The water is chlorinated by the Transport Commission and both they and we regularly sample it.

In addition 21 samples of water were taken for chemical analysis and only in two instances did the Public Analyst indicate that the physical characteristics were not satisfactory.

## SLAUGHTERING FACILITIES WITHIN THE BOROUGH

Reference was made in our 1961 report to the fact that the appointed day for closing our present Abattoir was confirmed as being on the 1st April, 1963. As the end of the year of 1962 was being reached it became increasingly evident that despite the fact that a firm decision to build a new Private Abattoir on a site adjoining the existing premises had been made, it would not, especially with the prospects of a bad winter ahead, be constructed by the date anticipated. The matter was put to Council by the proprietors of the proposed new Abattoir and with the subsequent approval of the Ministry, the date was extended to the 31st September, 1963. At the time of writing this report it is quite certain that a new and excellent new Private Abattoir will be ready for use substantially before that date. The proprietors are the same as those of the existing Abattoir and they are to be congratulated on a bold and imaginative effort to provide in the Borough an Abattoir to maintain this most essential service in a clean, hygienic and business-like manner. I am more than pleased with the building and its whole layout and cannot but express pleasure, too, at the excellent accommodation incorporated in the building for the comfort of the Meat Inspectors.

### Meat Inspection at the Abattoir.

One hundred per cent inspection of meat at the Abattoir is maintained as is required in a meat marking authority such as ours.

The number of animals slaughtered is maintained at a reasonably consistent level, being a little below the number for the previous year but more than in 1959.

It is the practice to kill for varying periods each Monday to Saturday and during the peak period on Sundays. Particulars of diseased and unsound meat condemned at our Abattoir are found on pages 34 to 36 in this report.

The total number of 12,746 animals were killed, the figures for the previous ten years being as follows:—

1952	—	26,058	1957	—	11,047
1953	—	27,383	1958	—	12,590
1954	—	44,497	1959	—	12,795
1955	—	30,693	1960	—	11,549
1956	—	18,721	1961	—	13,019

# ANNUAL SLAUGHTERHOUSE RETURNS.

The weekly slaughtering returns for 1962 were as follows :—

		BULLS, BULLOCKS AND HEIFERS												COWS				CALVES				SHEEP				PIGS			
1962 Week Ending		Weekly Totals	Grand Totals	Weekly Totals	Grand Totals	Weekly Totals	Grand Totals	Weekly Totals	Grand Totals	Weekly Totals	Grand Totals	Weekly Totals	Grand Totals	Weekly Totals	Grand Totals	Weekly Totals	Grand Totals	Weekly Totals	Grand Totals	Weekly Totals	Grand Totals	Weekly Totals	Grand Totals	Weekly Totals	Grand Totals	Weekly Totals	Grand Totals	Weekly Totals	Grand Totals
Jan.	7	.....	192	25	25	—	—	—	—	9	9	109	109	—	—	—	—	9	9	109	109	—	—	—	—	49	49	—	—
	14	.....	180	23	48	—	—	—	—	11	20	85	194	—	—	—	—	20	20	85	194	—	—	—	—	61	110	—	—
	21	.....	126	17	65	—	—	—	—	6	26	54	248	—	—	—	—	26	26	54	248	—	—	—	—	49	159	—	—
	28	.....	128	20	85	—	—	—	—	5	31	49	297	—	—	—	—	31	31	49	297	—	—	—	—	54	213	—	—
Feb.	4	.....	130	18	103	1	1	1	1	7	38	26	323	1	1	1	1	38	38	26	323	78	78	291	291	78	291	—	—
	11	.....	159	20	123	1	1	1	1	6	44	66	389	2	2	2	2	44	44	66	389	66	66	357	357	66	357	—	—
	18	.....	116	18	141	—	—	—	—	9	53	36	425	—	—	—	—	53	53	36	425	53	53	410	410	53	410	—	—
	25	.....	121	20	161	1	1	1	1	16	69	31	456	1	3	3	3	69	69	31	456	53	53	463	463	53	463	—	—
March	4	.....	128	17	178	—	—	—	—	10	79	51	507	—	—	—	—	79	79	51	507	50	50	513	513	50	513	—	—
	11	.....	106	21	199	—	—	—	—	8	87	29	536	—	—	—	—	87	87	29	536	48	48	561	561	48	561	—	—
	18	.....	118	16	215	2	2	2	2	7	94	45	609	2	5	5	5	94	94	45	609	48	48	609	609	48	609	—	—
	25	.....	150	14	229	—	—	—	—	14	108	75	656	3	8	8	8	108	108	75	656	44	44	653	653	44	653	—	—
April	1	.....	114	18	247	—	—	—	—	7	115	45	701	—	—	—	—	115	115	45	701	44	44	697	697	44	697	—	—
	8	.....	153	18	265	—	—	—	—	10	125	80	781	—	—	—	—	125	125	80	781	45	45	742	742	45	742	—	—
	15	.....	118	16	281	2	2	2	2	14	139	43	824	2	10	10	10	139	139	43	824	43	43	785	785	43	785	—	—
	22	.....	168	10	291	—	—	—	—	21	160	79	903	—	10	10	10	160	160	79	903	58	58	843	843	58	843	—	—
May	6	.....	156	18	309	—	—	—	—	2	162	50	953	—	10	10	10	162	162	50	953	43	43	886	886	43	886	—	—
	13	.....	145	19	345	—	—	—	—	6	168	88	1041	—	10	10	10	168	168	88	1041	45	45	931	931	45	931	—	—
	20	.....	116	17	362	—	—	—	—	3	176	56	1119	—	10	10	10	176	176	56	1119	43	43	974	974	43	974	—	—
	27	.....	126	17	379	—	—	—	—	3	179	71	1246	—	10	10	10	179	179	71	1246	35	35	1049	1049	35	1049	—	—
June	3	.....	144	17	396	—	—	—	—	—	179	84	1330	—	10	10	10	—	179	84	1330	43	43	1092	1092	43	1092	—	—
	10	.....	168	12	408	—	—	—	—	4	183	99	1429	—	10	10	10	4	183	99	1429	53	53	1145	1145	53	1145	—	—
	17	.....	179	21	429	—	—	—	—	—	183	115	1544	—	10	10	10	—	183	115	1544	43	43	1188	1188	43	1188	—	—
	24	.....	189	17	446	—	—	—	—	4	187	127	1671	—	10	10	10	4	187	127	1671	41	41	1229	1229	41	1229	—	—
July	1	.....	201	14	460	—	—	—	—	6	197	143	1961	—	10	10	10	6	197	143	1961	36	36	1265	1265	36	1265	—	—
	8	.....	200	18	478	—	—	—	—	6	197	143	1961	—	10	10	10	6	197	143	1961	33	33	1298	1298	33	1298	—	—
	15	.....	214	16	494	—	—	—	—	4	201	154	2115	—	10	10	10	4	201	154	2115	40	40	1338	1338	40	1338	—	—
	22	.....	290	17	511	—	—	—	—	3	204	226	2341	—	10	10	10	3	204	226	2341	44	44	1382	1382	44	1382	—	—
Aug.	29	.....	307	16	527	—	—	—	—	4	208	252	2593	—	10	10	10	4	208	252	2593	35	35	1417	1417	35	1417	—	—
	5	.....	332	13	540	—	—	—	—	9	217	264	2857	—	10	10	10	9	217	264	2857	46	46	1463	1463	46	1463	—	—
	12	.....	282	21	561	—	—	—	—	1	218	219	3076	—	10	10	10	1	218	219	3076	41	41	1504	1504	41	1504	—	—
	19	.....	252	16	577	—	—	—	—	4	222	189	3265	—	10	10	10	4	222	189	3265	43	43	1547	1547	43	1547	—	—
26	.....	383	6004	18	595	—	—	—	—	5	227	288	3553	—	10	10	10	5	227	288	3553	72	72	1619	1619	72	1619	—	—



### Annual Slaughterhouse Returns—Continued.

1962 Week Ending	BULLS, BULLOCKS AND HEIFERS				COWS		CALVES		SHEEP		PIGS		
	Weekly Totals	Grand Totals	Weekly Totals	Grand Totals	Weekly Totals	Grand Totals	Weekly Totals	Grand Totals	Weekly Totals	Grand Totals	Weekly Totals	Grand Totals	
Sept.	2	426	6430	18	613	—	10	4	231	382	3935	22	1641
	9	326	6756	17	630	—	10	6	237	260	4195	43	1684
	16	356	7112	17	647	—	10	4	241	286	4481	49	1733
	23	372	7484	19	666	—	10	8	249	293	4774	52	1785
Oct.	30	313	7797	20	686	—	10	6	255	232	5006	55	1840
	7	367	8164	21	707	—	10	8	263	282	5288	56	1896
	14	364	8528	20	727	—	10	6	269	283	5571	55	1951
	21	405	8933	23	750	—	10	10	279	320	5891	52	2003
Nov.	28	340	9273	23	773	—	10	7	286	260	6151	50	2053
	4	391	9664	25	798	—	10	7	293	308	6459	51	2104
	11	566	10230	24	822	—	10	6	299	470	6929	66	2170
	18	470	10700	24	846	—	10	5	304	381	7310	60	2230
Dec.	25	404	11104	24	870	—	10	7	311	308	7618	65	2295
	2	410	11514	25	895	—	10	7	318	318	7936	60	2355
	9	362	11376	25	920	—	10	3	321	279	8215	55	2410
	16	349	12225	23	943	—	10	4	325	263	8478	59	2469
	23	351	12576	11	954	—	10	6	331	202	8680	132	2601
	30	170	12746	29	983	—	10	1	332	121	8801	19	2620

### Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in Whole or in Part during 1962.

	Number Killed	Number Inspected	Cattle, excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
			983	10	332	8801	2620
			983	10	332	8801	2620
<b>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS &amp; CYSTICERCOSIS.</b>							
Whole carcasses condemned	.....	.....	—	—	—	3	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	.....	.....	264	1	5	1429	1010
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	.....	.....	26.86	10	1.5	16.01	38.55
<b>TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.</b>							
Whole carcasses condemned	.....	.....	1	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	.....	.....	5	—	—	—	28
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	.....	.....	0.61	—	—	—	1.07
<b>CYSTICERCOSIS.</b>							
Generalised and totally condemned	.....	.....	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	.....	.....	3	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	.....	.....	3	—	—	—	—
Percentage of number inspected affected with Cysticercosis	.....	.....	0.31	—	—	—	—

## **DISCHARGE OF SEWAGE INTO RIVER ESTUARY.**

Reference to previous reports of mine will show my concern on account of the fouling of the estuary of the River Avon from the discharge of sewage into it.

Whilst conditions remain as they are we will never be free of the extremely unpleasant circumstances which prevail particularly at low tides. I am certain that this is a serious problem which must, in the near future, be tackled in order that such sewage discharging into the river be taken to a point where the discharge can be carried out without such unpleasant contamination of the river bed and its banks.

## **REFUSE DISPOSAL.**

We continue to pay careful attention to our Corporation Refuse Tips. From a reference to our 1961 Annual Report it will be seen that complaints had been received in that year of a refuse tip in the Ynysygwas area. This was effectively dealt with and quite soon afterwards the tip was discontinued as the required area for tipping had been utilized. There have been no further complaints.

Close surveillance is given to our tips as to rodent infestation and regular visits are made and treatment given. No major nuisances have arisen for some time. Much work is being done by the Borough Surveyor and his staff by which means a large area of low lying and boggy ground on the Baglan Moors are being speedily reclaimed by the only tip now in operation.

We continue to be much concerned with indiscriminate tipping, by all sundry, on waste and other land. I feel that too many of our residents find nothing wrong in throwing out old beds and bedding, empty cartons and tins on to any convenient piece of ground or into the river just so long as it is not on their own property. We, of course, find a great difficulty in tracing the

culprits as such illegal tipping is done usually in the evening or in the night time. We thus find we have to spend public monies to have the sites cleared with the necessity of fixing "No Tipping" warnings on the site. A further distressing experience is the action of vandals in breaking or dismantling our "No Tipping" posts. The encouragement of rat infestation is a natural sequence to such bad habits of unlawful tipping.

## **INVESTIGATION OF ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.**

We continue the investigation of atmospheric pollution at our three sites in Taibach, Cwmavon and Bryn. The latter two sites were new as from the 1st June, 1961, reference to this change having been made in my previous report.

The Steel Company of Wales have also continued to provide information from their three sites namely, College of Further Education, Margam, Baglan Hall, Port Talbot, and the Head Offices of the premises of Messrs. Thomas Bros. Omnibus Proprietors, Sandfields, Port Talbot.

The re-siting of the Steel Company's instruments coincided with our own re-sitings in June, 1961, so that both the Company and ourselves should monitor from similar types of areas.

It is my intention early in 1963 to report to my Council on the advisability of installing Volumetric Daily Recording Instruments for the measurement of Smoke and Sulphur Dioxide. It would then be my wish to be able to take part in the National Survey conducted by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research.

The recordings from our and the Steel Company of Wales' instruments for 1962 and previous years are shown on the following pages:—

# RECORDS OF DEPOSITED POLLUTION OF DUST, SOOT, Etc.

(In tons per square mile).

Month.	ABERAVON.						CWMAVON. (11 months)	
	1956.	1957.	1958.	1959.	1960.	1961.	1961.	1962.
January	°	33.20	33.40	24.92	19.55	34.98		27.99
February	14.68	29.72	38.93	14.29	20.90	25.91		8.70
March	26.04	30.39	12.23	27.04	18.95	5.93		9.88
April	14.44	9.08	10.60	23.16	21.18	27.28		9.65
May	11.96	17.20	27.13	9.18	12.39	17.06		13.86
June	17.16	14.09	18.13	19.91	23.09		8.07	8.46
July	22.27	22.63	24.99	18.72	23.72		10.63	6.75
August	20.81	31.19	18.12	19.62	14.11		12.58	12.71
September	25.62	25.32	22.60	14.58	17.56		18.54	°
October	24.95	32.48	20.84	43.44	26.02		27.83	8.63
November	19.05	17.16	10.10	53.08	25.62		13.17	7.44
December	49.11	25.81	30.72	48.01	41.83		17.68	11.76
TOTAL	246.09	288.27	267.79	315.95	296.92	111.16	108.50	125.83

° No result—broken bottle. Totals for previous year 1955 (9 months only) 235.81

Month.	TOWN CENTRE.						BRYN. (11 months)	
	1956.	1957.	1958.	1959.	1960.	1961.	1961.	1962.
January	27.76	35.60	24.23	23.31	23.16	27.50		24.02
February	12.28	26.14	27.37	7.11	22.95	26.90		8.68
March	12.74	30.36	3.99	40.70	9.85	5.44		10.74
April	19.93	9.95	10.93	20.08	16.14	31.45		12.04
May	15.84	18.86	24.60	7.31	18.74	14.26		11.64
June	19.29	14.06	15.94	17.32	27.96		16.40	5.43
July	21.77	21.25	21.38	19.60	33.33		13.65	8.71
August	30.49	23.18	15.41	12.01	20.38		12.56	13.09
September	19.66	25.13	28.26	8.20	17.12		13.65	°
October	19.33	28.32	21.17	22.88	17.95		21.93	9.38
November	14.42	14.39	9.81	38.42	50.52		9.74	7.26
December	33.79	36.39	26.54	53.87	33.52		5.73	10.90
TOTAL	247.30	283.63	229.63	281.81	291.62	105.55	93.66	121.89

° Bottle broken in transit.

Totals for previous years: 1953—262.42; 1954—287.94; 1955—297.14.

Month.	TAIBACH					(11 months)	
	1956.	1957.	1958.	1959.	1960.	1961.	1962.
January	283.90	86.95	55.71	48.79	43.53	70.29	104.47
February	67.77	63.79	68.89	14.30	62.04	74.02	35.42
March	38.12	86.20	15.88	23.30	14.96	13.18	†
April	54.14	26.52	32.79	61.47	45.93	58.87	53.21
May	51.26	88.03	82.37	26.97	37.48	27.89	54.42
June	49.63	32.54	41.86	49.62	83.22	35.22	39.87
July	41.65	57.19	72.13	63.28	158.23	39.36	34.42
August	72.78	41.81	53.83	29.91	52.46	44.18	71.65
September	66.56	56.74	58.86	25.58	45.07	54.49	70.77
October	42.12	90.41	37.95	74.37	33.50	58.87	35.90
November	32.30	23.69	24.03	79.28	107.45	°	34.89
December	85.58	63.75	46.91	112.55	77.13	54.79	26.42
TOTAL	885.81	717.62	591.21	612.42	761.00	531.26	561.44

° Bottle tampered with. † Bottle stolen.

Total for previous year 1955—1186.23

**DEPOSITED POLLUTION OF DUST, SOOT, Etc.**  
(In tons per square mile).

Records supplied by the Steel Company of Wales.

MONTH	PORT TALBOT PARK.		FOUR WINDS HOTEL.		THOMAS BROS.		EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGE.		BAGLAN HALL.		GENERAL OFFICES BLOCK C ABBEY WORKS		COLLEGE OF FURTHER EDUCATION	
	1960.	1961.	1961.	1962.	1962.	1962.	1960.	1961.	1961.	1962.	1960.	1961.	1961.	1962.
January	46.99	37.11	219.77				60.81	34.71	24.87		42.40	57.17	41.36	
February	34.59	34.33	38.77				48.58	37.93	11.84		43.65	51.37	24.60	
March	14.66	23.87	31.71				26.91	20.56	13.29		20.93	47.93	35.88	
April	42.01	58.45	194.66				60.70	66.94	12.46		41.31	85.71	26.70	
May	20.18	26.71		25.59			34.38	42.05	22.07		46.39	72.04	25.48	
June	26.91		25.86	11.84			22.60		16.72		73.41		12.54	
July	62.89		14.11	34.01			52.08		15.87		114.19		76.71	
August	46.66		35.90	45.62			75.42		24.52		89.55		44.35	
September	19.89		39.03	27.04			33.50		25.80		52.49		30.75	
October	11.43		44.71	13.03			42.28		18.22		12.59		18.40	
November	43.76		120.04	14.38			19.57		10.87		15.31		19.70	
December	25.94		106.82	16.94			26.94		13.48		21.00		26.00	
								Instruments re-sited for remaining months of 1961				Instruments re-sited for remaining months of 1961		
TOTAL	395.91	180.47	286.47	484.91	188.45		509.77	202.19	125.48	210.21	573.22	314.22	227.92	380.67





# PORT TALBOT RAINFALL.

(Rainfall in inches).

Month.	ABERAVON.						CWMAVON. (11 months)	
	1956.	1957.	1958.	1959.	1960.	1961.	1961.	1962.
January	°	3.76	3.92	4.64	4.28	5.01		4.83
February	0.35	4.93	5.55	0.41	4.07	3.07		2.14
March	1.45	5.36	0.97	4.47	1.79	0.18		2.61
April	1.52	0.34	0.83	3.77	2.46	5.71		3.63
May	1.28	1.91	5.09	0.81	0.58	1.38		4.05
June	2.58	0.94	4.77	3.33	1.60		2.11	1.37
July	4.17	3.89	5.46	2.53	5.79		1.96	2.54
August	5.27	4.46	4.81	1.56	4.66		4.91	4.53
September	5.03	5.82	7.08	0.33	4.86		4.91	°
October	1.20	4.77	4.93	5.44	6.26		6.82	2.03
November	1.07	2.04	3.34	7.17	8.21		3.59	2.94
December	5.77	2.66	4.93	5.94	5.82		5.36	2.72
TOTAL	29.69	40.88	51.78	40.40	50.38	15.35	29.66	33.39

• No result—Broken Bottle.

Month.	TOWN CENTRE.						BRYN. (11 months)	
	1956.	1957.	1958.	1959.	1960.	1961.	1961.	1962.
January	5.32	3.52	3.76	4.45	4.45	4.93		5.68
February	0.32	4.71	4.57	0.38	3.58	3.07		2.19
March	1.45	5.06	0.26	4.60	1.91	0.19		2.89
April	1.75	0.36	0.65	4.02	2.59	5.92		3.59
May	1.17	1.92	3.39	0.67	0.94	1.41		4.44
June	2.12	0.64	3.58	2.77	1.75		2.45	1.71
July	4.33	3.69	3.94	2.96	5.90		1.92	2.88
August	5.83	4.31	2.98	1.41	4.45		5.23	6.00
September	4.93	6.05	6.70	0.35	5.06		4.98	°
October	1.07	4.50	5.18	4.89	6.26		8.26	2.82
November	1.22	2.10	3.31	7.09	7.91		3.61	3.54
December	4.28	2.57	4.94	6.05	5.60		3.40	2.58
TOTAL	33.88	39.42	43.26	39.64	50.40	15.52	29.85	38.32

° Bottle broken in transit.

Month.	GROES.						
	1956.	1957.	1958.	1959.	1960.	1961.	1962.
January .....	5.52	3.67	3.71	4.89	4.82	5.26	5.17
February .....	0.34	4.72	4.94	0.45	3.51	3.05	1.78
March .....	1.84	5.26	0.91	4.43	2.15	0.60	2.51
April .....	1.75	0.43	0.76	3.59	2.71	5.97	3.14
May .....	1.41	2.24	4.94	0.83	1.09	1.60	2.98
June .....	2.75	1.03	4.51	2.74	2.19	1.82	1.08
July .....	4.13	3.97	4.80	2.90	5.53	2.45	3.13
August .....	5.33	4.37	5.48	1.60	4.08	3.96	4.50
September .....	5.39	6.94	8.62	0.37	6.08	3.83	4.92
October .....	1.28	4.44	4.54	5.24	6.04	6.99	1.28
November .....	1.34	2.06	3.41	6.91	9.77	3.88	3.06
December .....	5.59	2.65	5.25	8.83	5.35	4.34	2.59
TOTAL .....	36.67	41.78	51.87	52.78	54.32	43.75	36.14

Totals for previous years: 1954, 61.57; 1955, 38.37.

Month.	REGENT, TAIBACH						
	1956.	1957.	1958.	1959.	1960.	1961.	1962.
January .....	5.00	3.03	3.38	4.63	4.66	4.79	5.08
February .....	0.24	4.47	4.92	0.36	3.39	2.91	1.92
March .....	1.45	4.40	0.73	4.79	1.69	0.22	°
April .....	1.50	0.24	0.58	4.04	2.46	6.03	3.21
May .....	0.99	1.85	3.91	0.76	1.06	1.47	3.11
June .....	1.92	0.73	4.10	2.42	1.96	1.47	0.95
July .....	4.55	3.37	5.18	3.00	6.29	2.06	2.60
August .....	5.15	4.38	5.05	1.38	4.55	3.68	4.34
September .....	4.84	6.28	7.43	0.28	5.23	3.70	5.43
October .....	0.77	3.99	5.55	5.23	7.62	7.35	1.40
November .....	1.00	1.89	3.20	6.48	7.83	4.10	3.16
December .....	5.41	2.30	2.30	2.00	5.58	4.73	2.49
TOTAL .....	32.82	37.03	46.33	39.37	53.32	42.51	33.69

° Bottle broken.

## PORT TALBOT SUNSHINE.

(Sunshine in hours).

Month.	GROES.						
	1956.	1957.	1958.	1959.	1960.	1961.	1962.
January .....	50.2	49.6	51.1	72.3	34.0	41.6	66.6
February .....	97.8	91.4	45.1	88.1	82.3	47.2	86.3
March .....	163.0	84.3	107.2	93.1	111.0	111.1	130.3
April .....	176.4	172.2	108.1	124.7	178.7	105.1	160.4
May .....	228.1	205.2	166.0	193.8	181.7	188.0	186.2
June .....	153.6	288.3	166.0	208.9	221.7	203.0	246.9
July .....	146.7	147.4	107.8	194.0	152.0	189.5	159.2
August .....	177.4	147.4	88.0	163.6	156.2	163.8	145.1
September .....	74.3	90.0	106.2	206.2	121.5	125.7	110.9
October .....	95.0	82.4	85.8	°	88.4	86.5	150.0
November .....	60.1	62.3	40.0	°	61.0	71.6	47.6
December .....	22.5	56.2	23.4	32.7	64.3	78.9	67.6
TOTAL .....	1445.1	1476.7	1094.7	1355.4	1452.4	1412.0	1557.1

° Records Incomplete.

## ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

The passage towards our goal of cleaner air in Port Talbot continues to be slow and arduous. Strides have certainly been made in the reduction of grit and dust from blast furnaces, sinter plants, coke ovens, etc., but the problem that is with us and is likely to stay for some time is that caused as a result of the use of oxygen infusion in the making of steel which has brought with it serious problems in the way of extensive iron oxide pollution.

The problem of arresting iron oxide emitted from bottom blown converters such as we have at the Steel Company of Wales is one which seems to be without any real solution despite experiments which we do know are being conducted in many places.

The conditions presented are a great trial to all, not in the least the housewife who fights a seemingly losing battle against spoiled washing and dusty houses.

So far as the Open Hearth Furnaces are concerned material reduction of this type of pollution has taken place with the installation of the Electrostatic Precipitators to four of the twelve units, but there still remains the other eight units. We have reason to believe that these will receive the same attention in the not too distant future.

Where electrostatic precipitators have been installed by the Company e.g. at the Sinter Plant and the Open Hearth Furnaces, there seems to be no doubt that this is the answer and, therefore, we can only hope that in the course of time the whole problem will be met in this way.

So far as grit and sulphur dioxide pollution is concerned, the monthly records are shown on pages 53—55.

A new plant of British Hydrocarbon Chemicals Ltd., will be put into commission next year and I shall be able in my next report to give an account of this. There seems no doubt that most if not all of this plant will be under supervision of the Alkali Inspector.

## ALKALI WORKS.

The following local works and processes have been transferred to the Alkali Inspectorate under the provisions of the Alkali, etc. Works Order.

<i>Name of Firm—</i>	<i>Work or Processes Registered—</i>
Steel Company of Wales Ltd. ....	Sulphate of Ammonia, Benzene, Gas and coke, Iron and Steel (Blast Furnaces), Sinter Plant, Open Hearth Furnaces, Bessemer Furnaces, Oxygen.
Wales Gas Board .....	Gas and Coke.
The Distillers Co., Ltd. ....	Limc.
Metallurgical Chemists Ltd. ....	Nitric Acid, Arsenic.

Our excellent link with the District Alkali Inspector has been maintained. This is most important, as the general public will, I feel, never really appreciate that it is to any one other than the

Public Health Inspector that complaint as to atmospheric pollution must be made.

The following list indicates those chimney stacks in the Borough which still come under our own supervision and those coming within the control of the Alkali Inspectorate:—

No.	DESCRIPTION			Ground. Height above	
				Ft.	Ins.
LOCAL AUTHORITY.	( 1	Margam "A" Power House	— 5 Chimneys	105	0
	( 2A	Margam "B" Power House	— 1 Chimney	120	9
	( 2B	Margam "B" Power House	— 1 Chimney	230	0
	( 3	(Abbey Soaking Pits	— 12 Chimneys	100	0
	( )	(Abbey Soaking Pits	— 7 Chimneys	161	1½
	( 4	Abbey Slab Reheating Furnaces	— 5 Recuperators	136	3¾
	( 5	Abbey Annealing Furnaces	— 9 Chimneys (Ducts)	80	0
	( 7	Acid Recovery Plant	— 1 Chimney	157	10
	( 6	Abbey Services Boiler House	— 3 Chimneys	120	4
		MARGAM:			
ALKALI INSPECTORATE.	( 8	No. 1 Blast Furnace Bleeder	— 3 Uptakes	192	8½
	( 9	No. 2 Blast Furnace Bleeder	— 3 "	223	11
	(10	No. 3 Blast Furnaces Bleeder	— 3 "	223	11
	(11	No. 4 Blast Furnace Bleeder	— 3 "	251	5
	(12	No. 5 Blast Furnace Bleeder	— 3 "	253	6½
	(13	No. 1 Blast Furnace	— 1 Chimney (Stove)	203	6
	(14	No. 2 Blast Furnace	— 1 " "	203	6
	(15	No. 3 Blast Furnace	— 1 " "	203	6
	(16	No. 4 Blast Furnace	— 1 " "	242	0
	(17	No. 5 Blast Furnace	— 1 " "	242	0
	(18	No. 4 Blast Furnace Bleeder Stack	— 3 Chimneys	240	9
	(19	No. 5 Blast Furnace Bleeder Stack	— 3 "	242	0
	(20A	Blast Furnace Clean Gas Bleeder	— 1 "	114	6
	(20B	Blast Furnace Clean Gas Bleeder	— 1 "	64	9
	(21	Coke Ovens—No. 2 Battery	— 1 "	235	10
	(22	Coke Ovens—No. 3 Battery	— 1 "	235	10
	(23	Coke Ovens—No. 4 Battery	— 1 "	257	6
	(25	Coke Ovens—No. 5 Battery	— 1 "	235	8
	(25	Coke Oven Gas Bleeder Stack (New)	— 3 "	210	0
	(26	Coke Oven Bleeder Stack (Old)	— 1 "	85	0
	(27A	Sinter Plant	— 1 "	279	8¾
	(27B	Sinter Plant	— 1 "	278	10½
	(28	Sinter Strand	— 4 "	121	9
	(29	Sinter Strand	— 4 "	103	4½
	(30	Sinter Strand	— 4 "	85	7½
	(31	E.P. Plant	— 1 "	120	0
	(32	Attritor House	— 1 "	75	8
	(33	Sludge Filtration Plant	— 1 "	56	0
	( )				
	( )	ABBEY:			
	(34	Melting Shop	— 12 Chimneys *(4)	151	6¾
	(35	Dust Precipitation Plant (Maerz Furnaces)	— 1 "	220	3
	(36	No. 6 Coke Oven Battery	— 1 "	259	1
	(37	Coke Oven Gas Bleeder Stack	— 3 "	150	10
	(38	Slab Deseamer (Scarfer)	— 1 "	58	6
	(39	V.L.N. Plant Converter Stack	— 4 "	131	10
	(40	Fume Exhaust	— 4 "	100	0

\* Not in Normal Use.



## **Smoke Control Areas.**

I intend to ask Council to be allowed to report in 1963 in the possibility of setting up a smoke control area or areas in the Borough.

## **Investigation and Prior Approval of New Furnaces:**

In accordance with Section 3 of the Clean Air Act, 1956, all new furnaces (except domestic) are required to be capable of being operated continuously without emitting smoke when burning fuel of a type for which they are designed. The Section also requires notification to the local authority when there is an intention to install a furnace exceeding an output of 55,000 B.T.U's per hour.

During the year notice of intention to install boiler apparatus was received from:—

Messrs. Johnson Bros., Aberavon, Port Talbot.

Messrs. W. R. Grace, Polyisobutylene Plant, Baglan Bay, Port Talbot.

Messrs. C. F. Hawes and Co., Ltd., Acacia Avenue, Aberavon, Port Talbot.

Messrs. Pfizers Ltd., Baglan Bay, Port Talbot.

Application for prior approval of boiler equipment were received from:—

Messrs. Gee Walker and Slater, Baglan, Port Talbot.

Messrs. N. & C. Luxury Coaches, Baglan Omnibus Depot, Port Talbot.

The Rail and Transport Club, Station Road, Port Talbot.

## **Control of Chimney Heights.**

Section 10 of the Clean Air Act, 1956 controls the heights of chimneys, other than those of residences, shops and offices.

A good link is maintained with the Borough Surveyor's Department in the studying of plans which include proposed new installations, so that a clear understanding is reached as to whether the proposals as to chimney heights are satisfactory or not. The plan will be rejected unless Council is satisfied that the chimney is of a height sufficient to prevent so far as practicable the smoke, grit, dust and gases from becoming prejudicial to health or a nuisance. There is, of course, appeal against the Council's decision.

## NOISE ABATEMENT.

Noise continues to present problems which are not always found easy to overcome. Port Talbot is a town which is undergoing material changes—a considerable amount of heavy work of demolition is taking place as a result of many activities such as for example the demolition of slum property, and of properties which the Ministry of Transport are removing in preparation for the construction of the new trunk road. It is true to say, too, that the situation, owing to the difficulties of getting traffic through the town, has meant for some considerable time parts of the main A48 road is generally a noisy one because of the stopping and starting of the traffic.

Fortunately the noise created by demolitions, etc., although disturbing at the time, is of comparatively short duration and people, although disturbed, are generally prepared to suffer it knowing that it would soon be over. Again there is the pile driver—this being a source of nuisance to many residents in those parts of the Borough where the new trunk road is being built. Here, fortunately, the operation is only for a specific period in any particular place.

A noise nuisance which has been disturbing residents in the Aberavon area arises from the work in a railway repair depot, where goods trucks are overhauled and repaired. Unfortunately it has to be recognised that this noise is part and parcel of the activity of the firm and in itself could not be diminished. The firm has been in existence for about 40 years and for much of this period work could be conducted without too much noise because the wagons there were constructed largely of wood. Now they are constructed wholly of steel and there is no doubt that the rivetting and sledge hammer operations are particularly noisy and disturbing to those who live near the works.

The difficulty is that there can be no diminution of the nuisance whilst the building remains constructed of the same material as it is now. Some endeavours made a year or so ago at insulation have probably served no purpose at all.

A degree of uncertainty exists as to the future operations of the firm and it has been found necessary to watch the situation with this in mind, but in any future work to the building assurances have been given that the firm will keep in touch with us so that a realistic approach to the insulation of noise may be made.

## FACTORIES.

The activities of your Chief Public Health Inspector's Department in relation to those duties imposed upon this Council by the Factory Acts of 1937 were as follows:—

### 1.—Inspection of Factories.

Premises on Register (1)		Inspection (2)		Number of written Notices (3)		Occupiers Prosecuted (4)
312	.....	517	.....	2	.....	—

### 2.—Particulars Found in Factories.

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND						Referred		Cases in which prose- cutions were instituted
Particulars	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector				
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	7	7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Accumulation	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) :—								
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	15	15	—	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	28	28	—	—	—	—	—	—

In addition to the above, the following works were carried out:—

Dust Nuisance remedied	2
Smoke Nuisance remedied	2

## RODENT CONTROL.

The duties imposed on the Local Authority under the provisions of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, carry with them a major responsibility, made no less in many authorities, certainly not less in Port Talbot, by the tremendous amount of work created as a result of the many demolitions of properties as a result of Slum Clearance, Road and Development Schemes. A good deal of rodent disturbance is created by this necessary work.

Our two operatives travel the whole area of the Borough, and in addition to their regular and daily work in ridding private houses of rodents, treatments are given to refuse tips, river banks, business premises, schools, canteens, stables, piggeries, sewers, etc.

A constant source of rodent infestation is the railway embankment. These unfortunately become the reception ground for deposited litter, and undoubtedly the culprits are residents of the Authority. Elimination of infestation in these instances has to be as a result of joint efforts between ourselves and the rodent operator employed by the British Railway in the area.

The notification of rodent infestations from occupiers as required by Sub-section 1 of Section 3 of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, was as follows:—

Rats .....	351
Mice .....	61
	<hr/>
TOTAL .....	412
	<hr/>

745 Dwelling houses and 87 business premises were treated in the area. Private dwellings are treated free of cost and a small charge is made for business premises sufficient to re-imburse Council for the time of the rodent operative, the bait and poison plus the usual establishment charge.

# SUMMARY OF WORK DONE DURING 1962.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				
	Local Authority (1)	Non-Agricultural Dwelling-houses (inc. Council houses) (2)	All Other (inc. Business Premises) (3)	Total of Cols. 1, 2 & 3 (4)	Agricultural (5)
I. Number of properties in Local Authority's District (Notes 1 and 2) .....	35	15154	2489	17678	61
II. Number of properties inspected as a result of:—					
Notification .....	19	432	68	519	18
Number of such properties found to be infested by:—					
Common Rat: Major .....	4	8	2	14	—
Minor .....	7	414	49	470	13
House Mouse: Major .....	—	2	1	3	—
Minor .....	3	4	5	12	—
III. Total number of properties inspected in the course of Survey under the Act .....	12	618	57	677	14
Number of such properties found to be infested by:—					
Common Rat: Major .....	2	2	—	6	—
Minor .....	5	285	16	306	6
House Mouse: Major .....	—	—	—	—	—
Minor .....	—	—	—	—	—
IV. Total number of properties otherwise inspected (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose) .....	69	922	385	1376	90
Number of such properties found to be infested by:—					
Common Rat: Major .....	—	—	—	—	—
Minor .....	—	27	12	39	—
House Mouse: Major .....	—	—	—	—	—
Minor .....	—	1	2	3	—
V. Total Inspections carried out including re-inspections .....	224	6172	1010	7406	250
VI. Number of infested properties (in Sec. II, III, and IV) treated by the L.A. ....	21	745	87	853	19
VII. Total treatments carried out —including re-treatments .....	31	1050	125	1206	32
VIII. Number of notices served under Sec. 4 of the Act:—					
(a) Treatment .....	1	4	3	8	—
(b) Structural work i.e., Proofing .....	1	4	3	8	—

## Nature and Number of Baits Laid.

Pre-poisoning baits .....	18,535
Poison Baits:—Tomarin .....	563
Warfarin .....	4,030
Zinc Phosphide .....	337
Arsenious Oxide .....	468



### Maintenance Treatment of Rats in Sewers.

In accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food a percentage of our sewer man-holes are treated twice annually. Brief particulars of both treat-ments during 1962 are as follows:—

TREATMENT.	June/July, 1962.	Dec., 1962.
No. of Manholes baited .....	468 .....	337
No. of Manholes showing bait taken	401 .....	228
BAIT USED:	Warfarin with Preservatives.	Zinc Phosphide with Sausage Rusk.

## INSECT PESTS.

A considerable amount of our time is taken up, mostly, of course, in the summer months, with infestation of houses and other types of premises by insects of many descriptions, e.g., bed bugs, fleas, ants, flying ants, earwigs, steam flies, cockroaches, wood lice and wood worm.

The summer months of 1962 in fact brought with them severe invasions of ants into hundreds of houses, and to a lesser degree, earwigs. We helped residents with a free issue of insecticidal powders and liquid and advised as to their best use. We are confident that the disinfestation measures so adopted proved successful.

Bed bug infestation, although in these days not so great as in former years, still presents a problem. Here again we try to bring home to families who err in this direction the great importance of improved cleanliness and we further help them by supplying materials to rid their premises of the infestation. We believe that education and help brings at least a major improvement in all but the worst cases.

Occasionally houses are worried by bee and wasp invasion. We do not pretend that we are well trained to deal with this type of problem without risk of injury to our own selves and to others, of course, and we, therefore, consider ourselves fortunate that we have in Port Talbot a gentleman who is skilled in dealing with bees, etc. He has been of great service in being able quickly to eradicate this kind of trouble and to him we are much indebted as are the people so troubled.

## **COMMON LODGING HOUSES.**

The last remaining two common lodging houses have now disappeared. The Green Park Lodging House was finally vacated during the year and has been demolished under our Slum Clearance Programme.

The other—at 40 Cwmavon Road—has been vacated and is no longer used for lodgers. These closures mark the end of an era. Clearly, as the year went on, the need of accommodation of this kind progressively decreased. At the time that the Green Park Lodging House was ready for demolition there were only five lodgers there, these being of the kind that would, unfortunately, live rough quite of their own choice. A new control is now required on private houses let in lodgings or occupied by more than one family. Close attention has to be given to this new regulation as to Houses in Multiple Occupation (referred to elsewhere in this report) and a great deal of emphasis is needed as to possible overcrowded conditions.

## **OFFENSIVE TRADES.**

We still retain our two offensive trades, one of rag and bone collecting and the second of fat melting and abstraction. 60 visits of inspection were made during the year. Agreeably we do not have the same degree of disquiet on account of offensive odours from the fat melter although, of course, these have not been completely removed. The proprietor continues to make much effort to keep the level of nuisance down to a minimum.

## **INSPECTION OF CINEMAS.**

It is pleasing to record that we have been able to report that our cinemas have been quite well maintained and kept in a satisfactorily clean condition. One of the cinemas which has previously presented us with some concern in this direction has been well cleaned up and tastefully decorated.

It is true, however, that in all cinemas in the Borough there is need constantly to deal with the repair and overhaul of seat upholstery broken by vandals and irresponsible persons and also damage done in the same way to W.C. fittings, etc. This is a distressing feature of the worries of all cinema managers. We are well satisfied, however, that such matters receive their daily attention and that the work of repair is quickly put in hand.

## **RENT ACT, 1957.**

### **RENT RESTRICTION REGULATIONS, 1957.**

There were no applications for Certificates of Disrepair during the year, and in only one instance was there an application by a tenant for a Certificate as to remedying of works following the failure of an Undertaking given by the owner.

It is quite true to say that in our Borough there was remarkably little response by the public to the use that could be made of the Rent Restriction Regulations and as each year came so the number of applicants decreased to a point where, as is shown in this report, almost no activity exists.

### **INSPECTION OF COUNCIL HOUSES.**

Inspections are made of corporation houses but not in a manner which would suggest that it is done on a house to house method. Obviously the majority of Council house tenants are beyond reproach in their manner of living and method of keeping their houses and, therefore, to have inspections of houses in this way is quite unnecessary and would serve merely as an annoyance to the occupiers. However, a good deal of information as to unsatisfactory tenants comes our way from our own observations and as a result of particulars given us from the Housing Manager, and we are thus able to make visits to such families in the hope that improvements in standards can be effected.

Inspections are also made of Council houses at the termination of tenancies and also on application for exchange of tenancies. 500 such visits were made and of these 8 were found to be verminous and 10 were in an unsatisfactory condition as to cleanliness. These were all dealt with in the usual manner.

## **LAND CHARGES ACT, 1935.**

536 enquiries were dealt with in the year as a result of applications made to the Town Clerk under the provisions of the Land Charges Act, 1935.

### **TRAINEE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS.**

In my last Annual Report I was pleased to refer to the appointment in the Department of a Pupil Public Health Inspector—Mr. Ronald Watkins—who commenced a full 4 year course of practical training in the scheme of paid pupilage with local authorities. After twelve months it was decided to make an appointment of a second pupil—this time Mr. Paul Thomas. This was another satisfactory appointment and it is most pleasing to find excellent

progress being made by both pupils. During the year Council agreed to allow another pupil, Mr. G. Rees, of Garnant, to attend in the Department for a period of three months during his summer vacation from the Royal College of Advanced Technology, Salford, where he was a student taking the Sandwich Course for Public Health Inspectors.

## **OUTBREAK OF SMALLPOX IN SOUTH WALES.**

It was with a great deal of satisfaction that we were able to be of material assistance in dealing with the many problems which arose as a result of the distressing outbreak of smallpox which started in April and was largely centred at Glanrhyd Hospital in Bridgend. An appreciable number of contacts were located in Port Talbot and in collaboration with the Medical Officer of Health we were able to render a good deal of assistance to those unfortunate families who had to be placed in quarantine. We saw to the domestic needs of these families who quite literally had to have their many day to day necessities brought to them. The excellent link was made between the families and the National Assistance Board and, of course, their employers. We took over the responsibility of obtaining the weekly wages and assistance grants and taking them separately to the families concerned. We saw that food and other essentials was provided and every member of the staff did many kindly acts in this way for which they did not at any time expect thanks, but it is certainly owed to them that it be recorded. Altogether there were thirty people placed in quarantine.

## **REINTERMENT OF GRAVES FROM OLD BURIAL GROUND.**

In March and April, on account of the impending construction of the new trunk road to by-pass the town, it was found necessary to transport old graves from the grave-yard of the Old Lady Maria Chapel at the Causeway, Pentyla, to Goytre Cemetery. The old coffins and vaults were in an extreme stage of decomposition and dilapidation. Home Office instructions and Precautions were followed throughout the operation and despite the extreme difficulties the work was carried out with care and dignity by the staff of the Borough Surveyor. A total of 107 reinterments was carried out from 77 graves. The remains were placed in new coffins, properly identified and then reinterred.



## **THE HOUSING (MANAGEMENT OF HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION) REGULATIONS 1962.**

These regulations which came into operation on the 22nd May, 1962, apply to any house which, or a part of which, is let in lodgings of more than one family.

We have a problem in the Borough in respect of such houses, but it is not one which resembles that in other parts of the country such as in London, the Midlands and North. Mostly, so far as Port Talbot is concerned, the position is that lodgers of varying nationalities, who have come to the town to work, collect together in houses acquired often by others of the same nationality.

I believe the situation in Port Talbot to be one which can be kept under control and we will, during the ensuing year, be giving the whole matter very careful attention in deciding what line of action is best.

### **SLUM CLEARANCE ACTIVITIES.**

In the approved Five Year Slum Clearance Programme, 43 single or individual houses were selected for demolition by the Demolition Order procedure and 515 houses for demolition by the Clearance and Compulsory Purchase procedure. Total number of houses involved—558.

The progress already made with our five year programme is as follows:—

#### **First Year Programme:**

43 Demolition or Closing Orders were made in respect of individual unfit houses, and following a Public Inquiry the Compulsory Purchase Orders in respect of 128 houses in Clearance Areas were confirmed. These clearance areas were:

Richard Street. Picton Street. Charles Street. Craddock Street.  
Mountain Row. Wern Place. Wern Square.

Total number of houses involved—171.

All families from these houses have been rehoused.



## Second Year Programme:

During the second year's programme the Ministry of Housing and Local Government confirmed Orders in respect of the following houses:—

Area :	No. of houses :
Pantdu (Clearance Orders) .....	43
Cwmavon Road (Clearance Order) .....	4
Cwmavon Road and Talbot Street (Compulsory Purchase Order) .....	4
Greenpark Street (Compulsory Purchase Order) .....	54
Total number of houses involved .....	<hr/> 105 <hr/>

All except two families have been rehoused.

## Third Year Programme:

The Ministry of Housing and Local Government confirmed orders which involved the following areas:—

Area :	No. of houses :
Tyr Arthur Row, Cwmavon .....	24
Tewgoed Row, Cwmavon .....	18
Engine Row, Cwmavon .....	14
Copper Row, Cwmavon .....	28
Vivian Row, Aberavon .....	9
Water Street and Park Row, Aberavon .....	9
Cross Row, Cwmavon .....	16
Total number of houses involved .....	<hr/> 118 <hr/>

During 1962 the department was asked to consider the dwelling houses in the centre of town. A preliminary report in the autumn of that year showed that well over 95 per cent of the houses came within the scope of Section 4 of the Housing Act 1957. Council then asked for a detailed inspection of all properties within the Centre of Town Area with a view to making a Clearance Area, Compulsory Purchase Order as soon as possible in 1963.

At the same time during 1962, 76 houses from previously confirmed Clearance Orders were demolished and 76 families totalling 228 persons from 70 such houses were rehoused.

Regarding individual cases, 10 houses were demolished and 6 families totalling 9 persons were rehoused. One family consisting of 4 persons were rehoused from a closed basement dwelling.

Finally during 1962, 10 Closing Orders were made and 1 Demolition Order in respect of unfit dwellings. Four Closing Orders were also made in respect of unfit basement dwellings.

#### Fourth Year Programme:

As soon as the Centre of Town Scheme has been completed we propose to deal immediately with our 4th and 5th year programmes as follows:—

Area :	No. of houses :
Balaclava, Taibach .....	16
Constant Hill, Taibach .....	2
Inkerman Row (East), Taibach .....	10
Commercial Road, Taibach .....	3
Merthyr Row, Cwmavon .....	7
Church Square, Cwmavon .....	13
London Row, Cwmavon .....	29
Total number of houses involved .....	<hr/> 80 <hr/>

#### Fifth Year Programme:

Area :	No. of houses :
Penycae Row, Port Talbot .....	28
Lletty Harry, Port Talbot .....	14
Oakwood Row, Pontrhydyfen .....	29
Schoolroom Row, Pontrhydyfen .....	4
Corlannau, Aberavon .....	12
Total number of houses involved .....	<hr/> 87 <hr/>

### MAGISTERIAL PROCEEDINGS.

#### Contravention Food and Drugs Act, 1955:

We were reluctantly obliged during the year to institute Magisterial Proceedings in respect of the following:—

A Chemist was fined a total of £10 for the sale of Capsules of Halibut Liver Oil. B.P. which were deficient in Vitamin A to the extent of not less than twenty-two (22) per cent contrary to Section 2 of the above act.





